Polish Grammar Guide

Polish

Grammar Guide

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Introduction

This grammar guide is a comprehensive view at the basic workings of the Polish language. It has been developed in a format designed for learning to be synergetic. Each principle learned will build up to learning the subsequent principles. Therefore a strong understanding of principles before moving on is recommended. It is not intended that a user of this grammar guide will get through the material in a short period of time. Rather this guide is intended to consistently and continually improve speaking and understanding skills in the Polish language over a long period of time. Learning the principles and then extensively applying and practicing them are essential.

Vital to learning Polish is using Polish. That being considered, mastery of the language comes over a long period of time and the assumption that not enough has been learned to speak should never be made. Making mistakes and learning from them is one of the greatest tools in learning a language. The more a user of this grammar guide will listen to, speak and read Polish the easier the concepts will come and the ability to apply them will increase.

The Grammar Guide contains certain areas that are a darker shade. These areas are specific principles of grammar that apply to the task being taught. It gives rules that will guide a speaker to put the parts of the language together correctly.

Although this grammar guide suggests a set of rules for learning Polish it is worth noting that these rules are not absolute. There are occasional exceptions. Ambiguity in Polish (as in any language) should be expected from time to time. Often what may be considered an exception with use and practice will become natural.

Alphabet & Pronunciation

Polish Alphabet

Letter	Sound	Examples
A a	**a**(ah) as in *f**a**ther* or *c**a**r*	**A**d**a**m, k**a**n**a**p**a**, t**a**k
Ą ą	Similar to English **on** as in *bat**on,*** but nasal	d**ą**b, s**ą**, miesi**ą**c
B b	**b** as in ***b**ike* or ***b**rother*	**b**anan, ka**b**el, **bib**lia
C c	**ts** as in *ca**ts*** (except when followed by i or z)	ko**c**, ta**c**ka, **c**el
Ć ć	**ch** as in *mu**ch**, su**ch**, mat**ch***	zna**ć**, lubi**ć**, miłość
D d	**d** as in ***d**ollar, **d**ive*	**d**om, mło**d**y, **d**aleko
E e	**e** as in ***e**l**e**mentary* or ***e**l**e**vator*	**E**wa, ml**e**ko, palc**e**
Ę ę	Similar to English **en** as in *b**en**t* or ***en**ter* (pronounced as normal **e** when at the end of a word)	l**ę**k, z**ę**by, lubi**ę**
F f	**f** in ***f**lute, **f**ame, wi**f**e*	potra**f**ić, **f**izyka, **f**acet
G g	**g** as in ***g**arden* or ***g**ate*	**g**odny, **g**óra, dro**g**a
H h	**h** as in ***H**ello, **H**anna*, ma***h**ogany*	**H**elena, **h**erbata, **h**ej
I i	**ee** as in *t**ee**n, t**ee**th* or *w**ee**k*	**i**nna, k**i**no, n**i**sk**i**
J j	**y** in ***y**ellow, **y**onder*	**J**ezus, ma**j**, da**j**emy
K k	**c** in ***c**orn*, ***c**ar*, ***c**razy*	**k**ara, ro**k**, o**k**res
L l	**l** in ***l**evel*, ***l**ike*, me***ll**ow*	ma**l**arka, ro**l**a, **l**ato
Ł ł	**w** as in ***w**ow*, ***w**onder*, or ***w**eek*	**ł**atwo, ma**ł**a, da**ł**
M m	**m** as in ***m**other, **m**ilk , **m**eadow*	**m**a**m**, da**m**a, **m**oc
N n	**n** as in ***n**ine, **n**ever, **n**o*	**n**os, bo**n**us, ekra**n**
Ń ń	A hard n similar to **n** as in *k**n**ee* or ***n**eed*	ko**ń**, sło**ń**, pa**ń**stwo
O o	**o** as in *t**o**e* or *bel**o**w*; a short sound	**o**kn**o**, k**o**t, m**o**da
Ó ó	**oo** as in *t**oo**, l**oo**se, m**oo**se*	**ó**sma, d**ó**ł, kt**ó**ra
P p	**p** as in ***p**ower, **p**eo**p**le, **p**lay*	**p**rasa, ma**p**a, s**p**oro
R r	**r** rolled (except when followed by z)	**r**ada, k**r**aj, da**r**
S s	**s** as in ***s**even, **s**tone, **s**nake*	**s**uma, ma**s**a, mi**s**jonarz
Ś ś	**sh** as in ***sh**irt, cru**sh**, **sh**are*	**ś**lub, zno**ś**ny, mi**ś**
T t	**t** as in ***t**en, **t**ower, **T**om*	Mar**t**a, **t**y, **t**en
U u	**oo** as in *b**oo**t, t**oo**, m**oo**d* (same sound as Ó)	k**u**k**u**rydza, **u**padek, tyt**u**ł
W w	**v** as in ***v**ideo, se**v**en, **v**alue*	**w**iek, s**w**ój, pra**w**o
Y, y	**i** as in *s**i**lly, s**i**n, b**i**ll*	dobr**y**, m**y**ln**y**, w**y**soki
Z z	**z** in ***z**ebra* or ***z**ero*	**z**ebra, mu**z**yka, **z**aka**z**
Ź ź	Similar to **s** in *mea**s**ure, trea**s**ure*	poka**ź**ny, **ź**ebrak, pó**ź**niej
Ż ż	Similar to an English **s** in *clo**s**ure, expo**s**ure*, but harder	**ż**ona, ka**ż**da, stra**ż**

Letter combinations

Combination	Sound	Examples
cz	**ch** in ***ch****ildren,* ***ch****eck,* ***ch****arcoal*, but a little harder	u**cz**ymy, **cz**as, me**cz**
rz	**s** in *clo**s**u*re or *expo**s**ure*, but somewhat harder (same sound as Polish **ż)**	**rz**eka, twa**rz**, misjona**rz**
sz	**sh** in ***sh****ape,* ***sh****un,* ***sh****ook*	**sz**ukać, ka**sz**a, ko**sz**
ch	a **h** sound similar to the German language but softer	**ch**leb, ma**ch**am, du**ch**
dź	Similar to English **j** in **j**oy, **j**olly, **j**umbo, but the sound is softer	**dź**wig, ka**dź**, cho**dź**my
dż	Similar to English **j** in **j**ungle, **j**am, **j**argon	**dż**em, droż**dż**e, **dż**ungla
si	**shee** as in **shee**p. BUT if if followed by vowel: Same sound as English **Sh** in **sh**ape, **sh**un, or **sh**ook	**si**ostra, **si**lny, **si**ebie
ci	Same sound as English **Chee** in ***chee****p,* ***chee****r,* ***chee****se* *just* ***ch*** *if followed by a vowel.*	**C**iebie, **ci**emny, **ci**chy
zi	S as in treasure	**zimno,**
dzi	Similar to English **j** in ***j****eans,* ***j****eer,* ***J****ew*	**dzi**eń, **dzi**ecko, **dzi**wny
prz	Similar to psh in English	**prz**ed, po**prz**ez
trz	Similar to tsh in English	**trz**y, po**trz**ebny
krz	similar to ksh in English	**Krz**esło, **Krz**ystof

- In the Polish language it is important to recognize what is a vowel and what is a consonant. Vowels in the Polish alphabet are: a, ą, e, ę, i, o, ó, u, and y. All other letters are consonants.

- When pronouncing a word the emphasis is placed on the second to last syllable.

  examples: misj**o**narz, m**a**cham, sz**u**kać, przedstaw**i**ciel
  (Emphasis is represented by the bolded vowel.)

Basic Language Overview

This section will review basic language concepts that will be beneficial in learning the Polish language.

Parts of Speech

The words of languages are broken up into different categories depending on their role in a sentence. These categories are called *parts of speech*.

The following parts of speech will be reviewed:

Nouns ***Pronouns*** ***Adjectives*** ***Verbs*** ***Adverbs*** ***Prepositions***

Noun: A person place or thing.

example:

God	loves	**Poland**
Noun		*Noun*

- While English uses **articles** such *as a, an,* and *the*, Polish has no articles.

example: In Polish the sentence, "*A* dog ate *the* cake",
would be, "Pies jadł ciasto". (Dog ate cake)

- Nouns can be **singular**(one) or **plural** (multiple)

example: apple (singular), apples (plural)

- All Nouns in Polish have **Gender**.
  - In English only living things have gender and there are three genders.

  He is masculine **she** is feminine **it** is neuter
  - In Polish all nouns have gender and there are four genders. They can be recognized by how a noun ends.

Masculine Personal	Nouns end in a **consonant** *and are living*	Sy**n**(son), Mare**k**(Mark), pie**s**(dog)
Masculine	Nouns end in a **consonant**	samochó**d**(car), do**m**(house)
Feminine	Nouns end in **a** or **ość**	Mart**a**(Martha), fal**a**(wave)
Neuter	Nouns end in **e** or **o**	spodni**e**(pants), Ok**o**(eye)

Pronoun: A word that that takes the place of a noun. There are two types of pronouns.

- Personal pronouns take the place of a person, for example: He, She, They
- Demonstrative pronouns take the place of a thing, for example: it, this, those

example: *Jim* drove **the car**. → *He* drove **it**.
The personal pronoun *He* replaces *Jim*, and the demonstrative pronoun **it** replaces **the car**.

Adjective: describe (change or modify) nouns and pronouns.

Our God | loves | **beautiful** Poland

Adjective *Adjective*

- Polish adjectives as found in the dictionary end in **i** or **y,**
  Examples: wysok**i**(tall), dobr**y**(good)

Verbs: show action.

examples: run, read, speak, study, learn, love, be

Our God | **loves** | beautiful Poland

Verb

- Polish Verbs as found in the dictionary generally end in **ć,**

Adverbs: describe (change or modify) a verb.

- They often specify a specific time something is done or how something is done.

examples: never, often, quickly, thoughtfully, slowly,

Our God | **always** loves | beautiful Poland

Adverb

- Polish adverbs generally end in **o** or **ie.**
- adverbs may also be used to modify adjectives and other adverbs.

examples: **very** beautiful, **too** hot, **extremely** fast

Prepositions: give an action or object a **direction** or **location.**

example: He threw the ball **to** the boys **by** the house.

I'm going **to** the store.

The keys were **under** the couch.

God	loves	Poland	**in** the winter.
			Preposition

- The preposition along with the object of the preposition make up the prepositional phrase. So "in the winter" would be the prepositional phrase.

Sentence Structure

The Polish language does not have a rigid sentence structure like English, but is very flexible. Nonetheless it is important to understand the different parts of a sentence.

Subject: What **performs** the action.

Verb: The **action** performed.

Direct Object: What the action is **performed upon.**

Indirect Object: What **receives** the direct object.

Prepositional Phrase: A preposition and its corresponding object.
example: on a boat, at school, under the table

- *On*, *at* and *under* are the **prepositions**.
- *Boat*, *school* and *Table* are the **objects of the preposition**.

John	gave	Robert	the book	from the library.
Subject	*Verb*	*Indirect Object*	*Direct object*	*Prepositional Phrase*

Introduction to Cases

A case is an ending change to a **noun and the corresponding adjectives** based on the context in which it is used. There are 7 cases in the polish language and each plays many different roles. Each case will be explained within its context throughout the grammar guide.

example:

God is my Father.	I am a God's son.
***Bóg** jest moim ojcem.*	*Ja jestem **Boga** synem.*

Notice that **Bóg**(God) in order to show ownership or possession was changed to **Boga**.

Sentence Structure: It is because of cases that the Polish Language can have its flexible sentence structure. Instead of a specific order of words, as in English, each part of the sentence goes into a case and the words receive the corresponding endings. Cases will be referred to by their Polish names. (To see the English names refer to the appendix.)

example:

John | gave | *Robert* | *the book* | from *the library*.

Here is the same sentence with the polish nouns (italics) in their dictionary form, or the *Mianownik* case.

Jan | dał | *Robert* | *książka* | od *biblioteka*.

Now here is the sentence with the nouns placed in their respective cases .

Jan | dał | *Robert**owi*** | *książk**ę*** | od *biblioteki.*

Subject:		*Indirect Object:*	*Direct Object:*	*Prepositional Phrases*
Mianownik case		*Celownik case*	*Biernik case*	*Dopełniacz case*

Because of cases the order may be changed but the meaning will stay the same.

Książkę | od biblioteki | dał | Jan | Robertowi.

How Words Case

A word is cased by changing its ending. If a word ends in a vowel the vowel is removed and the new ending is added. If the word ends in a consonant the new ending is simply added. Sometimes the new endings will require a change to the last consonant of the word. This change is called *softening* and will be explained further in the grammar guide.

The types of endings are split up into groups based on gender and whether the noun is singular or plural. Each case will have a chart to show the ending for the nouns in a simple way. This chart is just an example.

example:

	Singular	*Plural*
	Noun ending	*Noun ending*
Masculine Personal	**A**	**E**
Masculine	**B**	**F**
Feminine	**C**	**G**
Neuter	**D**	**H**

- **To change an ending simply drop the last vowel (if there is one) and add the case ending. If it doesn't end in a vowel simply add the case ending to the end of the word.**

The word modlitwa(prayer) will be used as an example to show how this works and the capital letters will **represent** what could be a possible ending, **but are not actual endings.**

Modlitwa is a feminine word (for **genders** see "noun" on page 6) and it is singular so it gets the C ending

pattern:

modlitwa prayer *dictionary form*	**modlitw** *ends in a vowel: vowel is dripped*	**modlitw+C** *It is feminine so the singular feminine ending is added.*	**modlitwC** prayer *cased with the example ending*

If it were plural(more than one) prayers then it would take the G ending.* ***modlitwG*

Remember: nouns go into the specific cases and the adjectives that describe them must match. For example if the noun is feminine singlular the adjective describing it must also take the feminine singular ending.

example:

	Singular		*Plural*	
	Adjective ending	*Noun ending*	*Adjective ending*	*Noun ending*
Masculine Personal	**I**	**A**	**M**	**E**
Masculine	**J**	**B**	**N**	**F**
Feminine	**K**	**C**	**O**	**G**
Neuter	**L**	**D**	**P**	**H**

For example the adjective szczery (sincerce) could be added to describe **modlitwC** for it to match it must take the feminine singular adjective ending (K). The vowel is dropped **szczer** and the ending **K** is added **szcerK**. So the final product is **szczerK modlitwC**

Softening

Softening is when a hard consonant is changed to sound softer and make a word flow more smoothly. Softening follows a regular pattern that must simply be memorized and does not change on a case to case basis - it is consistent. An understanding of its workings will simplify learning Polish dramatically.

Each consonant "softens" according to the changes shown in the following chart:

Consonant	**p**	**b**	**f**	**w**	**m**	**t**	**d**	**s**	**z**	**n**
softened	**pi**	**bi**	**fi**	**wi**	**mi**	**ci (ć)**	**dzi (dź)**	**si(ś)**	**zi(ź)**	**ni(ń)**

Consonant	**ł**	**r**	**k**	**g**	**ch**	**st**	**zd**	**sn**	**zn**	**sł**
softened	**l**	**rz**	**c**	**dz**	**sz**	**ści**	**ździ**	**śni**	**źni**	**śl**

Any letter with an accent mark above(such as ć or ś) can also be written with an i instead of the accent mark(so ci or si). When casing words the one **without the accent will be used.*

To soften a word the last vowel (if there is one) is removed and the remaining consonant is softened.

example: kobieta(woman) in the celownik case is softened ***and*** *e is added*.

Kobie**t**a | kobiet *vowel at end is removed* | kobie**ci** ***t** softens to **ci*** | kobieci**e** ***e** is added.*

kobieta becomes **kobiecie** in the celownik case.

Some dictionary word endings are already soft. The charts above show the hard endings and their correlating soft ending, but there is another classification of softening called "historically soft". The historically soft endings are shown in gray above, but additional ones include **cz dż** and **ż**. This classification is used to show when words will take different endings in respective cases and will simplify working with cases.

Here are all the historically soft endings:

c	**dz**	**sz**	**cz**	**dż**	**ż**	**rz**

- The following chart is organized in a way to make use of the softening patterns when casing words and will be referred to throughout the grammar guide.

Hard	**f**	**w**	**m**	**b**	**p**	**n**	**t**	**d**	**s**	**z**	**ł**	**r**	
Soft	**fi**	**wi**	**mi**	**bi**	**pi**	**ni**	**ci**	**dzi**	**si**	**zi**	**l**	↓	**j**
				Hard			**k**	**g**	**ch**			↓	
				Historically Soft			**c**	**dz**	**sz**	**cz**	**dż**	**rz**	**ż**

Asking Questions (Interrogative)

Interrogative

To make a sentence a yes/no question simply add **czy** to the beginning.

Examples:	**Ty jesteś nauczycielem.** *You are teacher.*	**Czy ty jesteś nauczycielem?** *? you are teacher?* *(Are you a teacher?)*
	Wy lubicie tenis. *You(all) like tennis.*	**Czy wy lubicie tenis?** *? you(all) like tennis?* *(Do you all like tennis)*
	Ty możesz mi pomóc. *You can me help.*	**Czy ty możesz mi pomóc?** *? You can me help?* *(Can you help me)*

Question Words

Forming questions with the following words works the same as English. To make a sentence a question one of these words is placed at the beginning.

Example: **to jest**(this is) becomes **Co to jest?(**what is this?)

Who?	**Kto?***
What?	**Co?***
When?	**Kiedy?**
Where?	**Gdzie?**
Why?	**Dlaczego?**
How?	**Jak?**
Which?	**Który?***
How many/how much?	**Ile?**

*These words decline in the cases. Który declines as a normal adjective, but to see how kto and co decline refer to the appendix.

Describing Objects, People and Their Characteristics

"To jest" (This is)

This is a simple way to describe objects and people in polish. This requires using the mianownik case which is the way nouns are found in the dictionary. For additional information about mianownik refer to the appendix.

example	**To jest** *This is*	**prawdziwy** *true*	**Kościół.** *church.*
Pattern	**To jest** *This is*	**dobry** *good*	**misjonarz.** *missionary*
Question	**Czy to jest** *? this is*	**czekawa** *interesting*	**historia?** *story*
Negative	**To nie jest** *This no is*	**piękny** *beautiful*	**widok.** *view* **krawat.** *tie.*
		ważna *important*	**księga.** *book* **rozmowa.** *conversation.*

**see next page for an basic explanation of Mianownik*

examples:

Q. Czy to jest ważna księga?
Is this an important book?
A. Tak, to jest ważna księga.
Yes, this is an important book.
A. Nie, to nie jest wazna księga.
No, this is not an important book.

- **To jest dobry misjonarz.**
  This is a good missionary.
- **To nie jest czekawa historia**
  This is not an interesting story.
- **To jest piękny krawat.**
  This is a beautiful tie.
- **Czy to jest piękny widok?**
  Is that a beautiful view?
- **To jest ważna rozmowa.**
  This is an important conversation

Mianownik Case

The subject of the sentence is **always** in mianownik. The adjectives that describe the subject must match the subject's case and gender. So, if the subject is feminine and in the mianownik case then the adjectives that describe it must have the feminine mianownik endings. In the *mianownik* case the changes are as follows:

- The singular noun endings, which reflect gender, stay exactly the same as they are found in the dictionary. (**Indicated by NC, no change**).
- The adjective endings will change, or **decline,** according to the gender of the noun. The new endings are specified in the chart.

Singular

	Adjective Ending	*Noun ending*
Masculine Personal	**NC**	**NC**
Masculine	**NC**	**NC**
Feminine	**a**	**NC**
Neuter	**e**	**NC**

- **To change an ending simply drop the last vowel (if there is one) and add the case ending. If it doesn't end in a vowel simply add the case ending to the end of the word.**
  **see pg. 12 "How Words Case"*

examples:

	Dictionary form		*Singular*
Masculine Personal	wysok**i** *tall*	pracownik *worker*	wysok**i** pracownik *tall worker*
Masculine	fajn**y** *cool*	samochód *car*	fajn**y** samochód *cool car*
Feminine	długi *long*	modlitwa *prayer*	długa modlitwa *long prayer*
Neuter	pyszn**y** *delicious*	ciasto *cake*	pysz**ne** ciasto *delicious cake*

If a word ends in **k or g, and e is the new ending, then i is added as well. K+ending e=kie*

Plurals

In English to make a word a plural generally **s** added. In polish the words are cased to take plural endings.

example:	**mapa** *map*	**mapy** *maps*	*The a is changed to y simply because the mianownik feminine plural ending is y*

Each case has different plural endings. The **mianownik** endings will be reviewed here and the plural endings for all other cases will be introduced along with each case. Here each gender will be reviewed individually.

	Singular	
	Adjective Ending	*Noun ending*
Masculine Personal	NC	NC
Masculine	NC	NC
Feminine	a	NC
Neuter	e	NC

Plural	
Adjective Ending	*Noun ending*
soften + y or i	**-soften + i or y** **-e -owie**
e	**y,i,e**
	y,i,e
	a

For **masculine personal plural nouns**:

-soften + i or y
-e -owie

- "owie" is added to a specific type of nouns called "nouns of distinction"- these must be learned on a case by case basis. Here are a few common ones:

synowie	**wujkowie**	**panowie**	**uczniowie**	**aniołowie**	**ojcowie**	**dziadkowie**
sons	*uncles*	*the sirs*	*disciples*	*angels*	*fathers*	*grandfathers*

- If it is **not** a noun of distinction then:

IF the ending is
- Hard: **Soften it** → **IF** → Softens to historically soft: **add y**
- Soft or historically soft: **Add e** → **IF** → Softens to anything else: **add i***

**if when softened it ends in i another i is not added.*

example: s softens to si. It already ends in i so another is not added.

stomatolog *dentist* *(dictionary form)*	stomatolo**dz** ***g** is hard so it softens to **dz***	stomatolodz + **y** *dz is historically soft so y is added*	**stomatolodzy** *dentists*
architekt *architect* *(dictionary form)*	architekci ***t** is hard so it softens to **ci***	architekci *already ends in i so another is not added.*	**architekci** *architects*
lekarz *doctor* *(dictionary form)*	**already historically soft**	lekarz+**e** *rz is soft so e is added*	**lekarze**

For **masculine personal plural adjectives**: **soften + y or i**

- The ending must be softened. If the adjective has a hard ending and it softens to a soft ending, then an **i** is added. (if the soft ending already has an i another is not added). If the ending softens to historically soft then a **y** is added.

SOFTEN → **IF**
- Softens to historically soft: **add y**
- Softens to anything else: **add i***

**if when softened it ends in i another i is not added.*

example: s softens to si. It already ends in i so another is not added.

example:	**dobry** stomatolodzy *good (dictionary form)*	dob**rz** *r softens to rz*	dobrz + **y** *rz is historically soft so y is added*	**dobrzy** stomatolodzy ***good** dentists*

For **masculine plural nouns:** **y,i,e**

- **IF**
  - the ending is hard, except k and g: **add y**
  - the ending is k, g, or anything with an accent mark: **add i**
  - the ending is soft or historically soft: **add e**

**If the ending has an accent, the accent is dropped and i is added.*

example:	**dom** *house (dictionary form)*	dom+ **y** *m is hard so **y** is added*	**domy** *houses*

For **Feminine plural nouns:** **y,i,e**

- **IF**
  - the ending is hard, except k and g: **add y**
  - the ending is k, g, or anything with an accent mark: **add i**
  - the ending is soft or historically soft: **add e**

**If the ending has an accent, the accent is dropped and i is added.*

example:	**córka** *daughter (dictionary form)*	córk+ **i** *for k **i** is added*	**córki** *daughters*

For **Neuter plural nouns:** **a**

- The ending is always **a**

example:	**światło** *light (dictionary form)*	światł+**a** ***a** is always added*	**światła** *lights*

For **Masculine, Feminine, and Neuter plural adjective:** **e**

- The ending is always **e**

example:	**duży** domy *big (dictionary form)*	duż+**e** *e is always added*	**duże** domy ***big** houses*

examples:

	Dictionary form		*Plural*
Masculine Personal	wysoki *tall*	pracownik *worker*	wysoc**y** pracowni**cy** *tall workers*
Masculine	fajn**y** *cool*	samochód *car*	fajn**e** samochod**y** *cool cars*
Feminine	długi *long*	modlitwa *prayer*	długi**e*** modlitwy *long prayers*
Neuter	pyszn**y** *delicious*	ciasto *cake*	pyszne ciasta *delicious cakes*

when adding an **e after **g** or **k** an **i** must be inserted between them: k+e=k**i**e, g+e=g**i**e*

Pronouns

Each subject of a sentence is either singular (one person or thing) or plural (multiple people or things), and can be 1st, 2nd or 3rd person. Each type of subject has a different pronoun.

- 1st person is when the subject of the sentence is the one talking (I or we)
- 2nd person is when the subject of the sentence is being addressed (you or you all)
- 3rd person is when the subject is being talked about (he, she, it, they)

These different conjugations may be organized in the following fashion in order to be consistent in learning different verbs and conjugations. This pattern is standard across most languages.

	Singular	Plural
1st Person	**I**	**We**
2nd Person	**You**	**You(all)**
3rd Person	**He/She/It (Any single person or object)**	**They (any group of people or objects)**

examples:

Singular	Plural
John	John and Mary
A car	Three cars

It is essential to note that any object is 3rd person

Here are the polish equivalents

	Singular	Plural
1st Person	**Ja**	**My**
2nd Person	**Ty**	**Wy**
3rd Person	**On/Ona/Ono**	**Oni/One**

Notice that "they" is two different subjects in polish but only one in English. This is because of *gender*.

- **Oni** is used whenever something masculine personal is used in the group "they" is referring to
- **One** is used for everything else.

Examples:

- Bishop, and his counselors – **Oni**
  (The bishop and all his counselors are masculine personal)
- Sebastian, Natalia, and Anna – **Oni**
  (Sebastian is masculine personal)
- Natalia and Anna – **One**
  (there is nothing masculine personal)

How to Conjugate Verbs

The verb in a sentence changes in accordance with the subject, this is called **conjugating**.

- Using the English verb "to be" we say *I* **am** and *you* **are** - the verb changes to match the subject. The same is done with all polish verbs.

Verbs in the dictionary are found in the *infinitive* form, meaning that they are unconjugated. Verbs are generally conjugated by removing the verb ending and replacing it with the conjugated form that matches the subject of the sentence. Some verbs follow a slightly different way of conjugating or sometimes completely change the word, but the concept is always the same – the verb conjugation must match the subject.

Here are the subjects again

Ja (I)	**My** (We)
Ty (you)	**Wy** (you all)
On/Ona/Ono (he/she/it)	**Oni/One** (They)

Here are conjugations (example) for the verb **czytać**

czytam	**czytamy**
czytasz	**czytacie**
czyta	**czytają**

**these are the pronouns, but they can be replaced with whatever noun they describe.*
*Remember any object is 3rd person and conjugated accordingly.

examples:

Ja czytam.
I read.
Ty czytasz.
You read.
On czyta.
He reads.
Ona czyta.
She reads.
Ono czyta.
It reads.
Jan czyta.
John reads.

My czytamy.
We read.
Wy czytacie.
You(all) read.
Oni czytają
They read. (at least one masculine personal)
One czytają.
They read. (no masculine personal)
Sebastian i Natalia czytają.
Sebastian and Natalia read.
Komputer i telefon czytają.
The computer and phone read.

- Often times this allows for the subject of the sentence not to be named.

example: **Ja czytam** is the same as **czytam.** Because the verb is conjugated to 1st person singular the subject must be **I**.

Formal/Informal

When speaking to someone in a formal setting the informal form of you, ty, is not used. Instead the formal usage **Pan**(sir) or **Pani**(madam) is used when addressing others. When Pan or Pani are used as the subject of a sentence the verb conjugates to 3rd person singular.

examples: **Czy Pan jest zainteresowany?** *Are you, Sir, interested?*
(Jest is the verb być conjugated to 3rd person singular.)

Jak się Pani ma? *How are you, Madam?*
(Ma is the verb mieć conjugated to 3rd person singular)

Pan and Pani also change when plural:

- Pan is panowie **When speaking directly to "panowie or panie" they are addressed in 2nd person plural,*
- Pani is panie. *but when talking about "panowie or panie" they are conjugated to 3rd person plural*
- When addressing a group of men and women **państwo** is used.
  **Państwo is conjugated to 2nd person plural when addressing, and 3rd person singular when talking about a "państwo".*

For future reference: Pan and Pani will be cased depending on what role they play in a sentence. Pan and Państwo follow the basic casing rules. Pani does not and will be reviewed as each case is covered.

*Pan, Pani and Państwo as reviewed above are as they appear in the mianownik case.

examples:

- **Czy Pan jest z Polski?**
  Are you, Sir, from Poland?
- **Panie są miłe.**
  You, Madams, are nice.
- **Drodzy Państwo, życzymy miłej podróży.**
  Dear (group of people), we wish you a nice trip.

State of Being (być)

Być is the verb "to be". We use this verb possibly more than any other. It is used to express state of being in 2 ways.

Być+Adjective

This is used to describe an object.

example		**Jezus** *Jesus*			**jest** *is*	**Doskonały.** *perfect.*
Pattern		**SUBJECT**			**BYĆ**	**ADJECTIVE**
Question	**Czy** *?*	Ja *I*	My *We*		jestem *(I) am*	jesteśmy *(We) are*
Negative		Ty *You*	Wy *You(all)*	**nie** *no*	jesteś *(You) are*	jesteście *(You all) are*
		On/Ona/Ono *He/She/It*	Oni/one *They*/They*		jest *(He/She/It) is*	są *(They*/They) are*

**remember that Oni is only used if the group includes something masculine plural*

miły
nice
niski
short
świetny
great
pracowity
hard-working
wspaniały
wonderful
szczęśliwy
happy

Mianownik Case

- The subject of the sentence **always** goes into the mianownik case.
- The adjective in this sentence describes the subject so the ending must change, or **decline**(according to gender), to fit the mianownik case.

examples:

Q. Czy On jest wysoki?
Is he tall?
A. Tak, On jest wysoki.
Yes, he is tall.
A. Nie, nie jest wysoki.
No, he is not tall.

- **Ja jestem miły.**
  I am nice.
- **Ty nie jesteś niski.**
  You are not short.
- **Jesteśmy szczęćliwi.**
  We are happy.
- **Czy Ona jest pracowita?**
  Is she hard working?
- **Oni są wspaniali.**
  They are wonderful.
- **Jesteście świetni.**
  You all are great.
- **Pan jest pracowity.**
  You, Sir, are hard-working.

Być+Noun

This is used to rename the subject, describing who or what it is. The direct objects in this sentence are in the narzednik case. For a full explanation of the narzednik case refer to the appendix.

example		**Jezus** *Jesus*			**jest** *is*	**Chrystusem.** *Christ.*
Pattern		**SUBJECT**			**BYĆ**	**NOUN(Direct Object)**
Question	**Czy** *?*	Ja *I*	My *We*		jestem *(I) am*	jesteśmy *(We) are*	**bratem** *brother*
Negative		Ty *You*	Wy *You(all)*	**Nie** *no*	jesteś *(You) are*	jesteście *(You all) are*	**synem** *son*
		On/Ona/Ono *He/She/It*	Oni/one *They*/They*		jest *(He/She/It) is*	są *(They*/They) are*	**rodziną** *family*
							misjonarzem *missionary*
							nauczycielem *teacher*
							dzieckiem *child*

*see next page for an explanation of Narzednik

examples:

Q. Czy Natalia jest pielęgniarką?
Is Natalia a nurse?
A. Tak, Natalia jest pielęgniarką.
Yes, Natalia is a nurse.
A. Nie, Natalia nie jest pielęgniarką.
No, Natalia is not a nurse.

- **Ja jestem bratem.**
  I am a brother.
- **Ty nie jesteś synem.**
  You are not a son.
- **Jesteśmy rodziną.**
  We are a family.
- **Czy Ona jest dzieckiem?**
  Is she a child?
- **Oni są misjonarzami.**
  They are missionaries.
- **Jesteście nauczycielami.**
  You all are teachers.
- **Czy Pani jest misjonarka?**
  Are you, Madam, a missionary?

Narzednik Case

When the subject of the sentence is renamed by another noun the second noun must go into the narzednik case.

example: Brandt is a teacher. (Brandt is named again as teacher.) So teacher would be in narzednik.

- The nouns in the narzednik case change endings from the dictionary form, or ***decline,*** according to the chart
- The adjectives in the narzednik case also decline according to the chart to match the noun.
- There are different endings if the noun is plural

	Singular		*Plural*	
	Adjective Ending	*Noun ending*	*Adjective Ending*	*Noun ending*
Masculine Personal	**ym, im**	**em**	**ymi, imi**	**ami**
Masculine	**ym, im**	**em**		
Feminine	**ą**	**ą**		
Neuter	**ym, im**	**em**		

if the adjective in the dictionary form ends in **y it gets the **ym** ending if it ends in **i** it gets the **im** ending*

To change an ending simply drop the last vowel (if there is one) and add the case ending. If it doesn't end in a vowel simply add the case ending to the end of the word.

- If object is a pronoun instead of a noun it still needs to be cased in narzednik.
- The pronuons for direct objects and objects of the preposition are the same in narzenik, but may be different in other cases.

Here are the pronouns in english			The corresponding Narzednik pronouns.	
me	us	one's selft	mną	nami
you	you(all)	Sobą	tobą	wami
him her it	them		nim nią nim	nimi

examples:

		Singular	*Plural*
duż**y**	problem	duż**ym** problem**em**	duż**ymi** problem**ami**
big	*problem*	*big problem*	*big problem**s***
zł**y**	przesłani**e**	Zł**ym** przesłani**em**	Zł**ymi** przesłani**ami**
bad	*message*	*bad message*	*bad message**s***
zdoln**y**	artyst**a**	zdoln**ą** artyst**ą**	zdoln**ymi** artyst**ami**
skilled	*artist*	*skilled artist*	*skilled artist**s***
mił**y**	król	mił**ym** król**em**	mił**ymi** król**ami**
nice	*king*	*nice king*	*nice king**s***
	Pani	*Panią*	*Paniami*
	Madam	*Madam*	*Madams*

Comparing Objects

When comparing we use adjectives called comparatives or superlatives.

Comparative Adjectives: show an increase of a triat as compared to another object.

- tall as a comparative adjective is taller.

example: John is **taller** than Steve.

As a general rule in Polish to make a word a comparative use the following pattern:

Change the ending of the word to *szy*.

example: stary becomes starszy
Old *older*

If a word ends in n or k change the ending to i*ejszy*.

example: fajn**y** becomes fajn**iejszy**
cool *cooler*

Comparitives can be used as normal adjectives in a sentence, or to specify the comparison, just as in English. The word **niż** (than)is added and then whatever it is being compared to follows.

example: On jest młodszy **niż** Sebastian.
He is younger than Sebastian.

- niż starts the sentence over so the subject after niż goes into the Mianownik case.

Superlative Adjectives: shows the highest degree, or superiority to everything else it is compared to.

- tall as a superlative adjective is tallest

example: John is the **tallest.**

As a general rule to make a superlative add *naj* to the beginning of a comparative adjective

Example: starszy becomes najstarszy
Older *oldest*

Not all words follow a pattern. Here is a list of some of common comparative and superlative exceptions.

Adjective		Comparative		Superlative	
dobry	good	lepszy	better	najlepszy	best
zły	bad	gorszy	worse	najgorszy	worst
miły	nice	milszy	nicer	najmilszy	nicest
łatwy	easy	łatwiejszy	easier	najłatwiejszy	easiest
piękny	pretty	piękniejszy	prettier	najpiękniejszy	prettiest
duży	big	większy	bigger	największy	biggest
wysoki	tall	wyższy	taller	najwyższy	tallest

Comparing Actions

When comparing actions adverbs called comparatives or superlatives are used.

Comparative Adverbs: show an increase of a trait as compared to another action.

- The adverb Fast as a comparative adverb would be **faster**

example: He runs faster than her.

As a general rule in Polish to make a word a comparative adverb use the following pattern:

Remove the last vowel and after soft or historically soft endings add *ej*. For hard endings soften and add *ej*. (see softening pg. 13)

examples:	**odważnie** courageously	**odważni** ni is soft	**odważni+ej** add ej	**odważniej** more courageously
	miło nice/nicely	**mil** ł is hard so softens to l	**mil+ej** add ej	**milej** nicer/more nicely

Comparatives can be used as normal adverbs in a sentence, or to specify the comparison, just as in English, add the word **niż**(than) and then whatever you are comparing it to.

Example: On pięknie śpiewa **niż** Robert.
He sings prettier than Robert..

- niż starts the sentence over so the subject after niż goes into the Mianownik case.

Superlatives: shows the highest degree, or superiority to everything else it is compared to.

- **Pretty** as a superlative adverb is **prettiest.**

example: She sings the **prettiest.**

As a general rule to make superlative add *naj* to the beginning of a comparative adverb

Example: milej becomes najmilej
nicer/more nicely *nicest/most nicely*

Not all words follow a pattern, but here is a list of some of the most common exceptions.

Adjective		Comparative		Superlative	
dobrze	well	lepiej	better	najlepiej	best
źle	bad	gorzej	worse	najgorzej	worst
bardzo	very	bardziej	more	nabardziej	most
mało	little	mniej	less	najmniej	least
lekko	light	lżej	lighter	najlżej	lightest
dużo	a lot	więcej	more	najwięcej	most
krótko	for short period	krócej	for shorter period	najkrócej	for shortest period

Simple Verb Conjugations

Although there are many different conjugations for different verbs there are a few basic ones that cover most verbs. They will be reviewed in this section. Most verbs follow a pattern of how they conjugate which is the same for verbs with the same ending in the infinitive, or basic dictionary form. Generally verbs lose their ending and a conjugation replaces it.

To conjugate a verb remove the ending and add the verb conjugation which matches the subject
example: grać becomes gr+matching conjugation

ać Verbs

ać is the ending for the most common verbs. Generally the direct object of a sentence will go into the *Biernik* case.

example		**Ja** *I*		**Gram** *play*	**piłkę nożną** *soccer*
Pattern		**SUBJECT**	**INFINITIVE VERB**	**CONJUGATION**	**DIRECT OBJECT**
Question	**Czy**	**Ty**	**kochać**		**cię**
	?	*you*	*to love*		*you*
		Marek		**am / amy**	**moją żonę**
		(man's name)		**asz / acie**	*my wife*
		Pies		**a / ają**	**swojego dziadka**
		Dog			*one's own grandfather*
		Jan I Monika	**śpiewać**		**hymny**
		(names)	*to sing*		*hymns*
		My			**Piosenki**
		We			*songs*
			otrzymać		**paczkę**
			to recieve		*package*
			grać		**ciasteczka**
			to play		*cookies*

Examples: ******see next page for an explanation of Biernik*

Q. Czy grasz piłkę nożną?
Do you play soccer
A. Tak, gram piłkę nożną.
Yes, I play soccer.
A. Nie, nie gram.*
No, I don't play.
**The negative including the direct object will be explained later*

- **Ja kocham cię.**
  I love you.
- **Czy kochasz swojego dziadka.**
  Do you love your grandfather?
- **Pies śpiewa piosenki.**
  The dog sings songs.
- **Czy Jan i Monika otrzymają paczkę?**
  Are Jan and Monika receiving a package?
- **Marek kocha ciasteczki.**
  Marek loves cookies.
- **Śpiewamy hymny.**
  We sing hymns.

Verb Governance

All verbs a have a governance or in other words define what case the direct object will be placed in.

Biernik Case

The majority of all verbs have a biernik governance (but not all).

- Nouns and adjectives in the biernik case decline according to the following chart.
- Remember to case words if the last letter of the dictionary form is a vowel remove the vowel and add the case ending. If the word ends in a consonant simply add the case ending.

Some of the biernik endings do not change from the dictionary form NC(no change)will be indicated in the chart.

	Singular		*Plural*	
	Adjective Ending	*Noun ending*	*Adjective Ending*	*Noun ending*
Masculine Personal	**ego**	**a**	**ych, ich**	**ów**
Masculine	**NC**	**NC**	**e***	**y,i,e***
Feminine	**ą**	**ę**		**y,i,e***
Neuter	**e**	**NC**		**a***

**These are the same as mianownik plural (see pgs. 18-19 to for an explanation)*

- If the direct object is a pronoun instead of a noun it still needs to be cased in biernik. There are different pronuons for direct objects and objects of the preposition. The object of the preposition pronouns are shown in parenthesis.

Here are the pronouns in english			The corresponding pronouns in biernik	
me	us	one's self	mnie(mnie)	nas(nas)
you	you(all)	Siebie(siebie)	cię(cię)	was(was)
him her it	them		go(niego) ją(nią) je(nie)	ich(nich)

examples:

Dictionary form		*Singular*	*Plural*
miły	biskup	miłego biskupa	miłych biskupów
nice	*bishop*	*nice bishop*	*nice bishops*
srebrny	długopis	srebrny długopis	srebrne długopisy
silver	*pen*	*silver pen*	*silver pens*
smaczny	ryba	smaczną rybę	smaczne ryby
tasty	*fish*	*tasty fish*	*tasty fish(plural)*
mały	światło	małe światło	małe światła
small	*light*	*small light*	*small lights*
	pani	*pani*	*panie*
	Madam	*Madam*	*Madams*

On lubi **mnie** . On lubi **ją**. On lubi **was**. On lubi **ich**. On lub **cię**. On lubi **je**. On lubi **nas**.
He likes me. He likes her. He likes you(all). He likes them. He likes you. He likes it. He likes us.

ować, ywać, iwać Verbs

These verb endings are very common. To conjugate them the ować, ywać, or iwać is removed and the ending that matches the subject is added.

example	**Misjonarze**	**kupują**	**jedzenie.**
	Missionaries	*are buying*	*food.*

Pattern		SUBJECT	INFINITIVE VERB	CONJUGATION		DIRECT OBJECT
Question	**Czy**	**Ja**	**studiować**			**historię**
	?	*I*	*to study(at college)*			*history*
		Ten student		**uję**	**ujemy**	**medycynę**
		That student		**ujesz**	**ujecie**	*medicine*
		Ty		**uje**	**ują**	**prawo**
		Yyou				*law*
		Ludzie	**malować**			**nasz dom**
		People	*to sing*			*our house*
		Wy				**piękne obrazy**
		You(all)				*beautiful pictures*
			przygotowywać			**lekcję**
			to prepare			*lesson*
			kupować			**obiad**
			to buy			*dinner*

Examples:

Q. Czy studiujesz?
Do you study(at college)?
A. Tak, studiuję medycynę.
Yes, I am studying medicine.
A. Nie, nie studiuję.*
No, I don't study(at college).
**The negative including the direct object will be explained later*

- **Ja studiuję prawo.**
  I am studying law.
- **Czy ten student studiuje historię.**
  Does that student study history?
- **Malujesz piękne obrazy.**
  You paint beautiful pictures.
- **Ludzie malują nasz dom.**
  People are painting our house.
- **Ten student przygotowuje obiad.**
  That student is preparing dinner.
- **Czy prygotowywujecie lekcję?**
  Are you(all) preparing lesson?

yć, ić, eć Verbs (1)

There are 2 types of yć, ić, eć verbs. The first type is generally a 3 letter word like pić (to drink), żyć (to live), and bić (to hit). These conjugate almost the same as the ować, ywać. To conjugate just remove the **ć** and add the conjugation ending which matches the subject.

example		**Ona** *She*		**pije** *drinks*	**mleko.** *milk.*

Pattern		**SUBJECT**	**INFINITIVE VERB**	**CONJUGATION**		**DIRECT OBJECT**
Question	**Czy**	**Łukasz**	**pić**			**wodę**
	?	*Luke*	*to drink*			*water*
		Polacy		**ję**	**jemy**	**herbatę**
		Polish people		**jesz**	**jecie**	*tea*
		Ty		**je**	**ją**	**dobre soki**
		you				*good juices*
		Moj koń	**żyć**			**szczęśliwie**
		my horse	*to sing*			*happily*
		Wy				**zdrowo**
		You(all)				*healthily*

Notice these are adverbs. They describe in what way the subject is living. Adverbs can be added to any verb.
examples:

- Ona **często** pije mleko
  *She **often** drinks milk.*
- Wy pracujecie **ciężko**.
  *You(all) work **hard**.*

Examples:

Q. Czy pijesz wodę?
Do you drink
A. Tak, piję wodę.
Yes, I drink water.
A. Nie, nie piję.*
No, I don't drink.
**The negative including the direct object will be explained later*

- **Łukasz pije dobre soki.**
  Luke drinks good juices.
- **Czy polacy piją herbatę?**
  Do polish people drink tea?
- **Moj koń żyje zdrowo.**
  My horse lives healthily.
- **Czy żyjesz szczęćliwie?**
  Do you live happily?
- **Wy pijecie wodę.**
  You(all) drink water.

yć, ić, eć Verbs (2)

The 2nd type is just normal verbs ending in yć, ić, and eć. They conjugate by removing the ć and adding the conjugation, or verb ending, which matches the subject.

example	**My**	**modlimy się**	**szczerze.**
	We	*pray*	*sincerely.*

Pattern		SUBJECT	INFINITIVE	CONJUGATION		DIRECT OBJECT
Question	**Czy**	**Ja**	**nosić**			**pudełko**
	?	*I*	*to carry/wear*			*box*
		Prorok		***ę**	**my**	**garnitury**
		Prophet		**sz**	**cie**	*suits*
		One		**(nothing)**	***ą**	**ciężką torbę**
		they				*heavy bag*
		Ja i moj kolega	**otworzyć**			**Dzwi**
		Me and my friend	*to open*			*door*
		Wy				**prawdę**
		You(all)				*truth*
			myśleć			**o ewangelii.**
			to think			*about the gospel*

** -Drop entire ending (yć, ić, eć) not only ć.*
*-Add **i** if just before the ending is p, b, f, n, m,* or w. example: *robic, Ja rob**ię.***
-If the verb has si just before the ending it changes to sz here.

Examples:

Q. Czy mówisz poważnie?
Are you speaking seriously?
A. Tak, mówię poważnie.
Yes, I'm speaking seriously.
A. Nie, nie mowię poważnie.*
No, I'm not speaking seriously
**The negative including the direct object will be explained later*

- **Ja noszę ciężką torbę.**
  I am carrying a heavy bag.
- **Czy prorok nosi garnitury?**
  Does the prophet wear suits?
- **One mówią poważnie.**
  They are talking seriously.
- **Ja i moj kolega mówimy prawdę.**
  I and my friend speak the truth.
- **Wy myślecie o ewangelii.**
  You(all) think about the gospel.

ąć Verbs

These verbs follow a similar patter to the yć, ić, eć, verbs, but vary slightly. They conjugate by removing the ąć and adding the conjugation which matches the subject. Most of these verbs are perfective (or used generally in the future tense) and will be explained in their entirety later in the grammar guide.

example	**Ja**		**zacznę**	**spotkanie.**
	I		*will start*	*the meeting.*

Pattern		**SUBJECT**	**INFINITIVE**	**CONJUGATION**		**DIRECT OBJECT**
Question	**Czy**	**Ty**	**posunąć**			**kanapę**
	?	*You*	*to slide/move*			*couch*
		Klaudia		**nę**	**niemy**	**talerzy**
		(name)		**niesz**	**niecie**	*plates*
		My		**nie**	**ną**	**duże ciesła**
		We				*big chairs*
		Ty i Robert	**sprzątnąć**			**wasz dom**
		You and Robert	*to clean up*			*seriously*
		Oni				**kuchnię**
		They				*truth*
			zamknąć			**drzwi**
			to close/lock			*door*

** If there is already an n just before the ąć it doesn't need to be added in the conjugation ex. biegnąć--biegnę*

Examples:

Q. Ćzy posuniesz kanapę?
Will you move the couch?
A. Tak, posunę kanapę.
Yes, I'll move the couch.
**The negative including the direct object will be explained later*

- **Sprzątniesz kuchnię.**
  You'll clean the kitchen.
- **Czy posuniemy duże ciesła?**
  Are we mowing the big chairs?
- **Ty i Robert zamkniecie dzwi.**
  You and Robert will close the door.
- **Czy Klaudia sprzątnie wasz dom?**
  Will Klaudia clean your house?
  Oni posuną talerzy.
  They will move the plates.

Negation

To make a sentence a negative simply add "nie" before the verb.

example: Ja lubię koszykówkę | Ja **nie** lubię koszykówki

I like baskeball | *I don't like basketball*

When a verb is negated the direct object, if it is in the biernik case(which it usually is), goes into the dopełniacz case. However, if the verb has a governance other than the biernik case, even when negated it will remain in the same case. As a general rule if a sentence is negated the direct object should be in dopełniacz.

example: Ja lubię *koszykówk**ę*** | Ja nie lubię *koszykówk**i***

Koszykówka in biernik case | *Koszykówka in dopełniacz case*

Dopełniacz Case

The dopełniacz case is used for many reasons which will be explained further in the grammar guide, but they all work the same way.

- To case a word simply remove the last vowel and add the dopełniacz ending that matches.

	Singular		*Plural*	
	Adjective Ending	*Noun ending*	*Adjective Ending*	*Noun ending*
Masculine Personal	**ego**	**a**	**ych, ich**	**ów**
Masculine	**ego**	**u,a***		**ów**
Feminine	**ej**	**y,i***		**drop ending**
Neuter	**ego**	**a**		**drop ending**

The feminine noun ending takes an i if the letter before is k or g. u or a are used on a case by case basis with no rule

- If the direct object is a pronoun instead of a noun it still needs to be cased in dopełniacz. There are different pronuons for direct objects and objects of the preposition. The object of the preposition pronouns are shown in parenthesis.

Here are the pronouns in english

me	us
you	you(all)
him her it	them

one's self

siebie

The corresponding pronouns in dopełniacz.

mnie(mnie)	nas(nas)
cię(ciebie)	was(was)
go(niego), jej(niej) go(niego)	ich(nich)

examples:

Dictionary form		*Singular*	*Plural*
mądry	profesor	mądr**ego** profesor**a**	mądr**ych** profesor**ów**
wise	*professor*	*wise professor*	*wise professors*
kolorowy	obraz	Kolorow**ego** obraz**u**	Kolorow**ych** obraz**ów**
colorful	*picture*	*colorful picture*	*colorful pictures*
twój	dziewczyn**a**	twoj**ej** dziewczn**y**	two**ich** dziewczyn
Your	*Girl*	*your girl*	*your girls*
wygodn**y**	siedzeni**e**	wygodn**ego** siedzeni**a**	wygodn**ych** siedzeń*
comfotable	*seat*	*comfortable seat*	*comfortabel seats*
	Pani	*Pani*	*Pań*
	Madam	*Madam*	*Madams*

**when the e is dropped from an nie ending the ni becomes ń*

Possession

Three ways of showing ownership in Polish will be explained in this section.

Dopełniacz(of)

In English we use an **'s** to show ownership, in Polish the noun simply goes into the dopelniacz case. This may be translated by using the word "of".

example: **I am God's son** in polish would be **Jestem synem Boga**
I am son (of) God.

Bóg (God) becomes *Boga* in dopełniacz

examples:

Księga **Mormona.**
Book (of) Mormon.

To jest słownik **Starszego Johnsona.**
This is dictionary (of) Elder Johnson.

Jesteśmy misjonarzami **Kościoła Jezusa Chrystusa Świętych** w Dniach ostatnich.
We are missionaries (of) church (of) Jesus Christ (of) Saints in days last.

Possesive adjectives

Possessive adjectives are describers that show ownership of an object. They are as follows:

Adjectives	Examples
mój	To jest **moja** guitara.
my	*This is my guitar.*
twój	To jest **twoj** rower.
your	*This is your bike.*
Nasz	To jest **nasz** dom.
our	*This is our home.*
wasz	Czy to jest **wasze** książki?
your(plural)	*Are these are your(plural) books?*
ich	Czy to jest **ich** mieszkanie?
their	*Is this is their apartment?*
jego	To nie jest **jego** portfel.
his	*This is not his wallet.*
jej	To nie jest **jej** marzenia.
her	*This is not her dream.*

notice that the possessive adjective are in the same case and match the noun they describe, except **ich, jego and **jej** never change.*

- To make this a question "czy" is added to the beginning of the sentence
- To negate nie is added before the verb.

Mieć (to have)

Mieć is the Polish verb meaning “to have”. Just as in English it is used to show ownership.

example		**Misjonarze** *Missionaries*			**mają** *have*		**odpowiedzialności.** *responsibilities.*
Pattern		**Subject**			**verb**		**Direct Object**
Question	**Czy**	Ja	My		mam	mamy	**długopis** *pen*
	?	Ty	Wy		masz	macie	
Negative		On, Ona, Ono	Oni, One	**nie** *no*	ma	mają	**pisma święte** *writings holy(scriptures)* **spotkanie** *meeting* **brata** *brother* **białą koszulę** *shirt*
							**remember if the verb is negated the direct object must be in the dopełniacz case* długoisu pism świętych spotkania brata białej koszuli

examples:

Q. Czy masz długopis?
Do you have a pen?
A. Tak, mam długopis.
Yes, have a pen.
A. Nie, nie mam dugopisu.
No, I don’t have a pen.

- **Ja mam pisma święte.**
  I have writings holy (scriptures).
- **Czy Prezydent Nielson ma spotkanie?**
  Does President Nielson have a meeting?
- **Masz białą koszulę.**
  You have a white shirt.
- **Ludzie nie mają pism świętych.**
  People don’t have scriptures.
- **Czy macie brata?**
  Do you(all) have a brother?

Numbers and Counting

Numbers in Polish exist in two froms, cardinal and ordinal.

- Cardinal numbers are normal counting numbers - one, two, three.
- Ordinal numbers show *order* - first, second, third.

Cardinal numbers

1	**jeden**	**11**	**jedenaście**	**21**	**dwadzieścia jeden**	**200**	**dwiesćie**
2	**dwa**	**12**	**dwanaście**	**22**	**dwadzieścia dwa**	**300**	**trzysta**
3	**trzy**	**13**	**trzynaście**	**30**	**trzydzieści**	**400**	**czterysta**
4	**cztery**	**14**	**czternaście**	**40**	**czterdzieści**	**500**	**pięćset**
5	**pięć**	**15**	**piętnaście**	**50**	**pięćdziesiąt**	**600**	**sześćset**
6	**sześć**	**16**	**szesnaście**	**60**	**sześćdziesiąt**	**700**	**siedemset**
7	**siedem**	**17**	**siedemnaście**	**70**	**siedemdziesiąt**	**800**	**osiemset**
8	**osiem**	**18**	**osiemnaście**	**80**	**osiemdziesiąt**	**900**	**dziewięćset**
9	**dziewięć**	**19**	**dziewiętnaście**	**90**	**dziewięćdziesiąt**	**1000**	**tysiąc**
10	**dziesięć**	**20**	**dwadzieścia**	**100**	**sto**	**1,000,000**	**milion**

Ordinal Numbers - ordinal numbers are treated as normal adjectives and case accordingly.

1	**pierwszy**	**11**	**jedenasty**	**21**	**dwudziesty pierwszy**	**200**	**dwusetny**
2	**drugi**	**12**	**dwunasty**	**22**	**dwudziesty drugi**	**300**	**trzysetny**
3	**trzeci**	**13**	**trzynasty**	**30**	**trzdziesty**	**400**	**czterysetny**
4	**czwarty**	**14**	**czternasty**	**40**	**czterdziesty**	**500**	**pięćsetny**
5	**piąty**	**15**	**piętnasty**	**50**	**pięćdziesiąty**	**600**	**sześćsetny**
6	**siósty**	**16**	**szesnasty**	**60**	**sześćdziesiąty**	**700**	**siedemsetny**
7	**siódmy**	**17**	**siedemnasty**	**70**	**siedemdziesiąty**	**800**	**osiemsetny**
8	**ósmy**	**18**	**osiemnasty**	**80**	**osiemdziesiąty**	**900**	**dziewięćsetny**
9	**dziewiąty**	**19**	**dziewiętnasty**	**90**	**dziewięćdziesiąty**	**1000**	**tysięczny**
10	**dziesiąty**	**20**	**dwudziesty**	**100**	**setny**	**1,000,000**	**milionowy**

Ile

To ask how many or how much the word **ile** is used.

example	**Ile**	**sióstr**	**On**		**ma?**
How many		*sisters*	*he*		*has?*

Pattern **Ile**	**Direct Object**	**Subject**		**Verb**		
	lat	Ja	My	**mieć**	mam	mamy
	summers	Ty	Wy	to have	masz	macie
	rodzeństw	On, Ona, Ono	Oni, One		ma	mają
	siblings					
	członków					
	members					
	dzieci					
	children					
	apples					
	jabłek					
	bananów					
	bannans					

Quantifiers such as **ile** cause the noun they describe to go into the dopełniacz plural case, therefore these word are in dopełniacz.

examples:

Q. Ile lat masz?
How many summers you have?
(How old are you?)
A. Mam dziewięćdziesiąt lat.
I have 90 years.(I'm 90 years old.)

Quantifiers:

(any number)	
wiele	many
dużo	a lot
mało	a little
miliony	millions
sporo	quite a few
para	a couple

- **Ile rozeństw ona ma?**
  How many siblings she has?
- **Ile członków kościoł ma?**
  How many members church has?
- **Ile dzieci mają?**
  How many children they have?
- **Ile jabłek mamy?**
  How many apples we have?
- **Ile bananów macie?**
  How many bananas you(all) have?

Useful phrase:* **Ile to kosztuje? *How much that costs?*
Pięćdziesiąt złotych. *Fifty zlots(polish currency).*

Express desire, need, and preference

Chcieć-to want

example		**Zaintersowany**			**chce**		**Księgę Mormona.**
		Investigator			*wants*		*Book of Mormon.*
Pattern		**Subject**			**Verb**		**Direct Object or Verb.***
Question	**Czy**	Ja	My		chcę	chcemy	**pokój.**
	?	Ty	Wy		chcesz	chcecie	*peace.*
Negative		On, Ona, Ono	Oni, One	**nie**	chce	chcą	**obiad.**
				no			*dinner.*
							wiele dzieci.
							many children.
							nagrodę.
							reward.
							pływać*.
							to swim.
							pomóc*.
							to help.

remember if the verb is negated the direct object must be in the dopełniacz case

pokóju
obiadu
wiele dzieci
nagrody

**Verbs are left in the infinitive, or dictionary form*

examples:

Q. Czy starsi chcą pomóc?
Do the elders want help?
A. Tak, starsi chcą pomóc.
Yes, the elders want help.
A. Nie, starsi nie chcą pomóc.
No, the elders do not want help

- **Wszyscy chcą pokój.**
  Everyone wants peace.
- **Czy chcecie obiad?**
  Do you(all) want dinner?
- **Chcesz nagrode.**
  You want help.
- **Ja i Ania chcemy pływać.**
  Me and Ania want to swim.
- **Czy Kowalscy chcą wiele dzieci.**
  Do the Kowalskis want many Children.

Potrzebować-to need.

example	**Jakub**	**potrzebuje**	**pomocy.**
	Jacob	*needs*	*help.*

Pattern		Subject			Verb		Direct Object
Question	**Czy**	Ja	My		potrzebuję	potrzebujemy	**lekarza.**
	?	Ty	Wy		potrzebujesz	potrzebujecie	*doctor.*
Negative		On, Ona, Ono	Oni, One	**nie**	potrzebuje	potrzebują	**wody.**
				no	**notice potrzebować is a ować, ywać verb*		*water.*
							czasu.
							time.
							szybkiego samochodu.
							fast car
							nowych butów.
							new shoes.
							ewangelii.
							gospel.

Verb Governance

Earlier in the Grammar Guide verb governance was reviewed. It was stated that generally verbs cause the direct object to be in the biernik case, but all verbs have a governance. In the instance of potrzebować the verb governance is dopełniacz, so the direct object is always in the dopełniacz case.

examples:

Q. Czy On potrzebuje lekrza?
Does he need a doctor?
A. Tak, On potrzebuje lekarza!
Yes, he needs a doctor!
A. Nie, On nie potrzebuje lekarza.
No, he doesn't need a doctor.

- **My potrzebujemy szybkiego samochodu.**
  We need a fast car.
- **Czy potrzebujesz wody?**
  Do you need water?
- **Ona potrzebuje czasu.**
  She needs time.
- **Nie potrzebujecie nowych butów.**
  You(all) don't need new shoes.
- **Everyone needs the gospel.**
  Do the Kowalskis want many children.

Lubić-to like

example	**Ja**			**lubię**		**Polskę.**
	I			*like*		*Poland.*

Pattern		**Subject**			**Verb**		**Direct Object or Verb.***
Question	**Czy**	Ja	My		lubię	lubimy	**muzykę.**
	?	Ty	Wy		lubisz	lubicie	*music.*
Negative		On, Ona, Ono	Oni, One	**nie**	lubi	lubią	**Amerykanów.**
				no			*Americans.*

fotografię.
photography.
biegać.
run.
tańczyć.
dance.
latać.
to fly.

*notice lubić is a perfect example of an ić, yć, eć verb

remember if the verb is negated the direct object must be in the dopełniacz case

muzyki
Amerykanów
fotografii

**Verbs are left in the infinitive, or dictionary form*

examples:

Q. Czy lubicie tańczyć?
Do you(all) like to dance?
A. Tak, lubimy tańczyć.
Yes, we like to dance.
A. Nie, nie lubimy tańczyć.
No, we don't like to dance.

- **Oni lubią Amerykanów**
  They like Americans.
- **Czy lubisz muzykę?**
  Do you like music?
- **My nie lubimy fotografii.**
  I don't like photography.
- **Ja lubię latać.**
  I like to fly.
- **Czy mateusz lubi latać?**
  Does he like to fly?

Woleć-to prefer

example	**My**	**wolimy**	**polskie jedzenie.**
	We	*prefer*	*polish food.*

Pattern		Subject			Verb		Direct Object or Verb.*
Question	**Czy**	Ja	My		wolę	wolimy	**zimne mleko.**
	?	Ty	Wy		wolisz	wolicie	*cold milk.*
Negative		On, Ona, Ono	Oni, One	**nie**	woli	wolą	**wodę.**
				no	*-notice woleć is a perfect example of an ić, yć, eć verb*		*water*
							krutkie spotkania.
							short meetings.
							muzykę klasyczną.
							music classical.
							chodzić.
							to walk
							słuchać.
							to listen
							stać
							to stand

**Verbs are left in the infinitive, or dictionary form*

examples:

Q. Czy wolisz wodę albo herbatę ?
Do you prefer water or tea?
A. Ja wolę wodę.
I prefer water.

- **Ja wolę krutkie spotkania.**
  I prefer short meetings.
- **Czy wolicie słuchać?**
  Do yo(all) prefer to listen?
- **Dzieci wolą zimne mleko.**
  Children prefer cold milk.
- **Jacek woli chodzić**
  Me and Ania want to swim.
- **Czy wolisz muzykę klasyczną?**
  Do you prefer music classical?
- **My wolimy stać**
  We prefer to stand.

Express Abliity

An important part of any language is being able to express what you are able or have the intention to do. Three ways to express ability will be reviewed.

Móc-to be able (can)

example	**Karolina** *(name)*	**może** *can*	**pomóc.** *help.*

Pattern		Subject			Verb		Verb.	Direct Object
Question	**Czy**	Ja	My		mogę	możemy	**iść.**	
	?	Ty	Wy		możesz	możecie	*go.*	
Negative		On, Ona, Ono	Oni, One	**nie**	może	mogą	**prowadzić** *drive.*	**samochód.** *car.* **autobus.** *bus.*
				no	**moc conjugates irregularly*		**być.** *be.*	**miły.*** *nice.* **posłuszny.*** *obedient.*
							szukać *look for*	**prawdy.** *truth.* **długopisu.** *a pen.*

- A direct object doesn't always need to be used. When there is a direct object it will go into whatever case the second verb governs, remember most verbs have a biernik governance. As reviewed earlier some verbs have a different governance. In this case szukać is a dopełniacz verb so the direct object must be in the dopełniacz case.
- *These adjectives are not the direct object, but simply describe the subject so it will be in the mianownik case. (see page 16 "Być + Adjectives")
- If the verb is negated the direct object must go into the dopełniacz case (see page 26 "negation")

examples:

Q. Czy możesz iść?
Can you go?
A. Tak, mogę iść.
Yes, I can go.
A. Nie, nie mogę iść.
No, I can't go.

- **Oni mogą być posłuszni.**
  They can be obedient.
- **Czy mogę prowadzić samochód?**
  Can I drive the car?
- **My nie możemy prowadzić autobusu.**
  We can't drive a bus.
- **Dawid i Pawel mogą szukać prawdy.**
  David and Paul can look for truth.
- **Czy On może być miły?**
  Can he be nice?

Umieć-to know how

example	**Ja**			**umiem**	**czytać**
	I			*know how to*	*read.*

Pattern		Subject			Verb		Verb.
Question	**Czy**	Ja	My		umiem	umiemy	**mówić po polsku.***
	?	Ty	Wy		umiesz	umiecie	*speak polish*
Negative		On, Ona, Ono	Oni, One	**nie**	umie	umieją	**malować**
				no			*paint.*
							tańczyć.
							dance.
							śpiewać
							sing.
							pływać.
							swim.
							nauczać
							teach

**po polsku is how you say „in polish" in polish*

examples:

Q. Czy On umie mówić po polsku?
Does he know how to speak Polish?
A. Tak, On umie mówić po polsku.
Yes, he knows how to speak Polish.
A. Nie, On nie umie mówić po polsku.
No, doesn't know how to speak Polish.

- **Umiesz śpiewać.**
  You know how to paint.
- **Czy umieją tańczyć?**
  Do they know how to dance?
- **Jan nie umie pływać.**
  John doesn't know how to swim.
- **Ja umiem nauczać**
  I know how to teach.
- **Czy umiecie malować?**
  Do you(all) know how to paint?

Muszeć-to have to(must)

example	**Ty**	**musisz**	**jeść.**
	You	*have to*	*eat.*

Pattern		Subject			Verb		Verb.	
Question	**Czy**	Ja	My		muszę	musimy	**pamiętać.**	
	?	Ty	Wy		musisz	musicie	*remember.*	
Negative		On, Ona, Ono	Oni, One	**nie**	musi	muszą	**się uczyć.***	
				no			*Learn/study*	
							być *be.*	**punktualny** *punctual.* **silny.** *strong.*
							przygotować się* *to get ready* **wracać** *come/go back*	

- These adjectives are not the direct object, but simply describe the subject so it will be in the mianownik case. (see page 16 "Być + Adjectives")
- *these verbs are two words: verb +się it doesn't technically matter which word is first, but generally sentences will not end in the word się.

examples:

Q. Czy musicie warcać?
Do you(all)have to go back?
A. Tak, musimy wracać.
Yes, we have to go back.
A. Nie, nie musimy wracać.
No, we don't have to go back.

- **Studenci muszą się uczyć.**
  The students have to study.
- **Czy musisz być silny?**
  Do you have to be strong?
- **Ja muszę sie przygotować.**
  I have to get ready.
- **Hubert nie musi wracać.**
  Hubert doesn't have to come back.
- **Czy musimy pamiętać?**
  Do we have to remember?

Make a Request (Prosić)

Prosić is one of the most common words in the Polish language and has a few, very useful functions. It is the word used when asking for something or making a request and also means **please** and **you're welcome**. Prosić will be useful for a number of tasks including: praying, making purchases, ordering in restaurants, asking for things etc.

Prosić o (ask for)

example	**Ja** *I*	**Proszę** *I ask*	**o** *for*	**jeden bilet.** *one ticket.*

Pattern		Subject			Verb			Noun
Question	**Czy**	Ja	My		proszę	prosimy	**o**	**błogosławieństwa.**
	?	Ty	Wy		prosisz	prosicie	*for*	*blessings.*
Negative		On, Ona, Ono	Oni, One	**Nie** no	prosi	proszą		**zdrowię.** *health.*

**the subject may be included but is not required because it is inferred with the verb conjugation*

sałatkę.
salad
zapiekankę
casserole
dwa pomidory
two tomatoes
ochotnika
volunteer

Prepositions

"o" is a preposition meaning *for*. Prepositions cause their corresponding objects to be cased according to whichever case the preposition specifies.

Example:	**pod** *under*	**ciesło** *chair*	*pod is a narzednik preposition so causes ciesło to be in the narzednik case*	**pod ciesłem** *under the chair*

"o" is a biernik preposition in this case, so the object must be in the biernik case

Negating the sentence will not change any of the cases because there is no direct object.

examples:

- **Prosimy o błogosławieństwa.**
  We ask for blessings.
- **On prosi o zapiękankę.**
  He asks for the casserole.
- **Nie proszę o zdrowię.**
  I don't ask for health.
- **Czy prosicie o ochotnika?**
  Are you(all) asking for a volunteer?
- **Czy prosisz o dwa pomidory?**
  Are you asking for two tomatoes?

Express Thanks (dziękować)

Expressing thanks is simple in the Polish language. To do so the verb dziękować (to thank) is conjugated to the subject, or whoever is thanking. Examples: I thank you or We thank you - just as in english. The celownik case must be used with dziękować. For a full explanation of the celownik case see the appendix.

Dziękować za (to thank for)

example	**Dziękujemy**	**wam**	**za**	**przyjście.**
	We thank	*you(all)*	*for*	*coming.*

Pattern		Verb		Direct Object		Noun
Question	**Czy**	dziękuję	dziękujemy	**Ci**	**za**	**jedzenie.**
	?	dziękujesz	dziękujecie	*you*	*for*	*food.*
Negative	**Nie**	dziękuje	dziękują	**Bogu**		**pomoc.**
	No	**the subject may be included but is not required because it is inferred with the verb conjugation*		*God*		*help*
				swojej matki		**wsparcie.**
				their mother		*support.*
				wszystkim		**kościół**
				everyone		*church.*
				misjonarzom		**miłość**
				missionaries		*love*
				Marcinowi		**radę.**
				Martin(name)		*counsel*

**see next page for a basic explanation of Celownik*

Prepositions

"za" is a preposition meaning *for*. As stated previously prepositions cause their corresponding objects to decline according to whichever case the preposition specifies.

"za" is a biernik preposition in this instance, so the object must be in the biernik case.

examples:

- **Dziękuję ci za pomoc.**
  Thank you for the help.
- **Czy dziękujecie Bogu za jedzenie?**
  Do you(all) thank God for the food?
- **Nie dziękujemy misjonarzom za pomoc.**
  We don't thank the missionaries for the help.
- **Dziękujesz wszystkim za wsparcie.**
  You thank everyone for support.
- **Ona dziękuje swojej matce za radę.**
  She thanks her mother for counsel.

Celownik Case

The Celownik case is used for many reasons. Two specific ones will be reviewed.

The first is **verb governance**. If the verb governance is celownik, then the direct object of the sentence must be in the celownik case

example: **Pomogę ci**
I will help you

*The verb **pomóc** is a celownik verb and therefore governs that the direct object must be in the celownik case. **ci** is "you" in celownik.*

The **indirect object** is always in the celownik case.

example: **Dam *Łukaszowi* długopis.**
I'll give Luke the pen.

Lukasz is the indirect object because he is receiving the direct object, which is długopis (pen), so must be in celownik.

Remember to put a word in the celownik case:

- To case a word simply remove the last vowel and add the celownik ending that matches

	Singular		*Plural*	
	Adjective Ending	*Noun ending*	*Adjective Ending*	*Noun ending*
Masculine Personal	**emu**	**owi, u***	**ym, im**	**om**
Masculine	**emu**	**owi, u***		
Feminine	**ej**	**soften+e*, y, i**		
Neuter	**emu**	**u**		

**There is no specific rule for which word will take owi, or u but as a general rule owi is used.*

For feminine*: **-If the end of the word is hard, soften and add e.
-If the end of the word is soft, add i
-If the end of the word is historically soft, add y

see "softening"on page 13

- If object is a pronoun instead of a noun it still needs to be cased in celownik. There are different pronuons for direct objects and objects of the preposition. The object of the preposition pronouns are shown in parenthesis.

Here are the pronouns in English

me	us
you	you(all)
him, her, it	them

one's self
sobie(sobie)

The corresponding celownik pronouns.

mi(mnie)	nam(nam)
ci(tobie	wam(wam)
mu(niemu), jej(niej), mu(niemu)	im (nim)

examples:

Dictionary form		*Singular*	*Plural*
dobry	nauczyciel	dobremu nauczycielowi	dobrym nauczycielom
good	*teacher*	*good teacher*	*good teacher**s***
stary	pomnik	staremu pomniku	starym pomnikom
old	*monument*	*old monumet*	*old monuments*
mały	rzeka	małej rzece	małym rzekom
small	*river*	*small river*	*small river*
gorący	słońce	gorącemu słońcu	gorącym słońcom
hot	*sun*	*hot sun*	*hot suns*
	Pani	*Pani*	*Paniom*
	Madam	*Madam*	*Madams*

Describe Location

Describing location in the Polish language works the same as English. Conjugate the verb "to be" to the subject for example "I am". Then add a preposition describing where for example "on" , "in", or "at". Afterwards the actual place is added for example "the bus", "home", "church". Prepositions of place have different cases. The object declines according to the case which the preposition specifies. These prepostions all use the miejscownik case.

example	**Ja**	**jestem**	**na**	**balkonie.**
	I	*am*	*on*	*balcony.*

Pattern		Subject			Verb			Noun
Question	**Czy**	Ja	My		jestesm	jesteśmy	**w**	**pociągu**
	?	Ty	Wy		jesteś	jesteście	*in*	*train.*
Negative		On, Ona, Ono	Oni, One	**Nie**	jest	są	**przy**	**oknie.**
				no			*next to*	*window.*
							na	**spotkaniu.**
							at	*meeting.*
								kościele
								church.
								Polsce.
								Poland.
								miejscu
								place.

the subject may be included but is not required because it is inferred with the verb conjugation

- W and na do not translate directly to english. **w** is used as being physically inside while **na** is used for being physically on something or at an event.

*See next page for an explanation of miejscownik.

examples:

w *in*	**autobusie** *bus*	**domu** *home*	**pociągu** *train*	physically inside it
na *on, at*	**stole** *table*	**meczu** *match*	**koncercie** *concert*	physically on it, or at an event

*notice that in English on the bus is used which directly translated "na autobusie" would mean physically on top of the bus, thus **w** or "in" is used.*

- Negation will not change any cases in these sentence because there is no direct object

examples:

- **Oni są w pociagu.**
  They are in a train.
- **Czy jesteście przy kościele?**
  Are you(all) next to the church?
- **Nie jesteśmy na spotkaniu.**
  We are not at a meeting.
- **Jesteś w Polsce.**
  You are in Poland.
- **Ona jest na miejscu.**
  She is at the place.

Miejscownik Case

The miejscownik case is used only with prepositions with a miejscownik governance. These prepositions are:

- O-about
- Na-on or at (only with place and ***not*** used in other instances when it would be in English ie: *at* 5:00)
- W-physically inside
- Przy-next to
- Po-after

Remember to put a word in the miejscownik case:

- Simply remove the last vowel and add the miejscownik ending that matches

	Singular		*Plural*	
	Adjective Ending	*Noun ending*	*Adjective Ending*	*Noun ending*
Masculine Personal	**ym, im**	**soften+ e, u***	**ych, ich**	**ach**
Masculine	**ym, im**	**soften+ e, u***		
Feminine	**ej**	**soften+e*, y, i**		
Neuter	**ym,im**	**soften+ e, u***		

The singular noun endings are more complicated and will be explained here, but as a **general rule the end of the word is softened and e is added.**

- Masculine Personal, masculine and neuter genders **u** is used after soft consonants
- Feminine:
  - If the end of the word is hard, **soften** and add **e**.
  - If the end of the word is soft, add **i**
  - If the end of the word is historically soft, add **y**

*** "see softening" on page 13**

- If object is a pronoun instead of a noun it still needs to be cased in miejscownik. They are the same for objects of a preposition.

Here are the pronouns in English

me	us
you	you(all)
him, her, it	them

one's self

sobie

The corresponding miejscownik pronouns.

mnie	nas
tobie	was
nim, niej, nim	nich

examples:

Dictionary form		*Singular*	*Plural*
nasz	zbawiciel	naszym zbawicielu	naszych zbawicielach
our	*savior*	*our savior*	*our savior**s***
czarny	płot	czarnym płocie	czarnych płotach
black	*fence*	*black fence*	*black fence**s***
nowy	kaplica	nowej kaplicy	nowych kaplicach
new	*chapel*	*new chapel*	*new chapel**s***
ulubiony	święto	ulubionym święcie	ulubionych świętach
favorite	*holiday*	*favorite holiday*	*favorite holiday**s***
	Pani	*Pani*	*Paniach*
	Madam	*Madam*	*Madams*

Overview of Tenses

A tense is a period of time in which an action is performed. To show a tense in Polish different verbs and verb conjugations are used. We do the same in English. For example: I ran, I am running, and I will run. The three basic tenses are past, present, and future. These and 3 more tenses (past perfect, future perfect, and conditional) will be covered in this grammar guide.

- The first five tenses that will be covered are(these do not carry the same names as English tenses):

Past ***Past Perfect*** ***Present*** ***Future Perfect*** ***Future***

Past tense is generally used for most past tense speech

example: I **was running.**

Past Perfect tense is used for actions that were completed in the past (used much less than basic past tense)

example: I **ran** 12 miles.

Present tense is used when actions are currently occurring or that occur generally.

example: I **am running** (currently occurring) or I **run** (generally).

Future perfect is used for actions that will be completed in the future

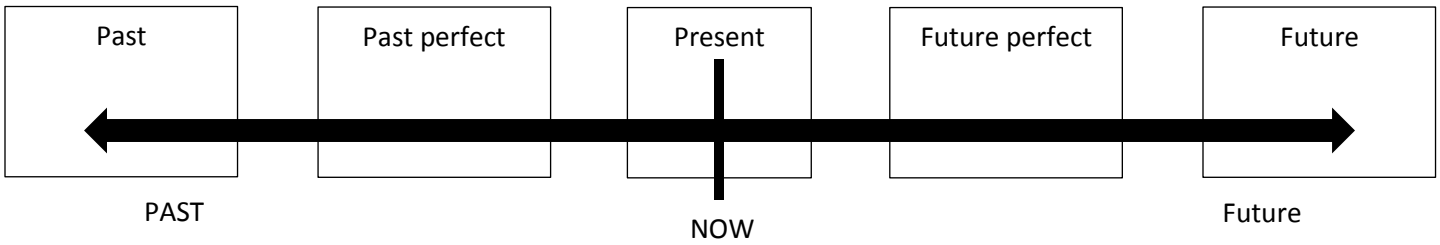
example: I **will run** 12 miles (12 miles specifies the beginning and end)

Future tense is used for actions that will be happening in the future with no definite beginning or end.

example: I will be running when…

**the future tense is sometimes used in place of the future perfect tense*

The following timeline visually represents when each tense is used.



Polish verbs all exist in pairs: the imperfective verb and the perfective verb and are generally written:
imperfective/perfect *example*: czytać/przeczytać.
In dictionaries the abbreviations *imp*. and *perf.* are sometimes used.

The perfective verb is used for the past and future perfect tenses and the imperfective verb is for the others

- The sixth tense is called conditional and will be covered later in the grammar guide.

Past Tense

In the Polish language there exists two types of past tense, the past tense and the past perfect tense; both of them work the same way. The only difference is that Past tense uses the imperfective verb and the past perfect tense uses the perfective verb.

example: **Czytałem księgę.**
Imperfective: I was reading the book.

Przeczytałem księgę.
Perfective: I read the book. (the beginning to end)

Basic Past Tense Conjugation

The following chart shows the subjects and their respective past tense endings. Remember: they are gender specific and are labeled m for masculine, f for feminine, and n for neuter.

Ja (I)	**My** (We)	+	**łem(m)** **łam(f)**	**liśmy(m)** **łyśmy**
Ty (you)	**Wy** (you all)		**łeś(m)** **łaś(f)**	**liście(m)** **łyście**
On (he) **Ona** (she) **Ono** (it)	**Oni** **One** (They)		**ł(m)** **ła(f)** **ło(n)**	**li(m)** **ły**

Remember if anything in the group is masculine personal in gender, then *the whole group is treated masculine. (see "Pronouns" on pg. 17) if nothing in the group is masculine personal the second ending is used.*

Making a verb past tense follows a very simple pattern that is just like conjugating verbs, but is ALWAYS gender specific. To make a verb Past Tense simply remove the ć and add the past tense ending.

example:	**Ja**	**studiować**	**studiowa**	**studiowa+łem**	**studiowałem**
	I	to study			I studied
	subject	*infinitive*	*ć removed*	*add past tense ending*	*past tense verb*

examples:

Ja studiowałem.
I studied.(m)
Ty studiowałaś.
You studied.(f)
On studiował.
He studied.(m)
Ona studiowała.
She studied.(f)
Ono studiowało.
It studied.(n)
Karolina studiowała.
Karolina studied.(f)
Moj brat studiował.
My brother studied.*(m)*

My studiowałiśmy.
We studied.(at least one masculine personal))
Wy studiowałyście.
You(all) studied.(no masculine personal)
Oni studiowali.
They studied. (at least one masculine personal)
One studiowały.
They studied. (no masculine personal)
Sebastain i Natalia studiowali.
Sebastian and Natalia studied. (at least one masculine personal)
Anna I Weronika studiowały.
The textbook and pen studied. (no masculine personal)

Future Tenses

In the Polish language there exists two types of future tense, Future Tense and Future Perfect tense. Unlike the Past tenses they do not work the same way so they will be reviewed separately.

Future Tense

The Future tense uses only imperfective verbs. To conjugate to the future tense **być** (to be) is conjugated to the subject and the verb is added in the infinitive form, similar to English i.e.: I will eat. It may also be used without a second verb in order to describe or restate just as in English for example: "he will be…" tall or a student.

example		**On** *He*			**będzie** *will be*		**grać piłkę nożną.** *playing soccer.*
Pattern		**Subject**			**być**		**Action in the future**
Question	**Czy**	Ja	My		będę	będziemy	**kupować jedzenie.**
	?	Ty	Wy		będziesz	będziecie	*buying food.*
Negative		On, Ona, Ono	Oni, One	**Nie**	będzie	będą	**pić mleko.**
				no			*drinking milk.*

**the subject may be included but is not required because it is inferred with the verb conjugation*

chcieć Ksiegę Mormona.
wanting a Book of Mormon.
potrzebować pomocy.
needing help.
wysoki.
tall.
lekarzem.
doctor.

- All of these examples are from earlier principles in the grammar guide and carry the same cases in the future tense as they did when originally presented in the present tense.
- Negation also will change (or not change) the case just as explained before.
- There is another pattern used in the future tense in which these verbs would be written as if conjugated to the 3rd person past tense (singular or plural depending on the subject) see appendix for an explanation.

examples:

Q. Czy będziesz pić mleko?
Will you be drinking milk?
A. Tak, będe pić mleko.
Yes, I will be drinking milk.
A. Nie, nie będę pić mleka.
No, I will not be drinking milk.

- **Ja będę kupować jedzenie.**
  I will be buying food.
- **Czy Prezydent Johnoson będzie chcieć księgę Mormona?**
  Will President Johnson be wanting a Book of Mormon?
- **Będziesz potrzebować pomocy.**
  You will be needing help.
- **Ludzie nie będą wysocy.**
  People will not be tall.
- **Czy będziecie lekarzami?**
  Will you(all) be doctors?

Future Perfect Tense

The future perfect tense uses only perfective verbs. To conjugate to the future perfect tense simply conjugate the perfective verb to the subject.

example		**On** *He*			**kupi** *will buy*	**nowe buty.** *new shoes.*
Pattern		**Subject**			**Verb**	**The Rest of the Sentence**
Question	**Czy**	Ja	My		**przygotować** *to prepare*	**duchową lekcję.** *spiritual lesson.*
	?	Ty	Wy			**obiad.** *dinner.*
Negative		On, Ona, Ono	Oni, One	**Nie** no	**zamknąć** *to close/lock*	**drzwi.** *the door.*
		**the subject may be included but is not required because it is inferred with the verb conjugation*				**duże okno.** *big window.*
					zaśpiewać to sing.	**hymn.** *hymn.*
						piosenkę. *song.*

- Refer to ”Simple Verb conjugations” to review how to conjugate these verbs
- These perfective verbs affect casing the same as their imperfective partners which were reviewed earlier in the grammar guide.
- Negation also affects the direct object in the same manner as the imperfective verbs.

examples:

Q. Czy przygotujecie obiad?
Will you prepare dinner?
A. Tak, przygotujemy obiad.
Yes, we will prepare dinner.
A. Nie, nie przygotujemy obiadu.
No, we will not prepare dinner.

- **Ja zamknę dzwi.**
  I will close the door.
- **Czy ten facet zaśpiewa piosenkę?**
  Will that guy sing a song?
- **Nie przygotujesz duchową lekcji.**
  You will not prepare a spiritual lesson.
- **Misjonarze zaśpiewają hymn.**
  The missionaries will sing a hymn.
- **My zamkniemy duże okno.**
  We will close the big window.

Conditional Tense

Conditionals express an action that happens only under a certain condition. In English the words “would” or “could” are used in conditionals, and in Polish a similar priniciple is applied. The word used in Polish is **by**. It does not translate to would directly, but rather has many functions in the language and in this case makes a verb conditional.

To make a verb conditional by+the ending that matches the subject is placed with the verb and the verb is conjugated to the 3rd person with corresponding gender and plurality. The by+ending may be placed anywhere in the sentence, but is most commonly before the verb or attached to the end of the verb.

example	**Ja**	**bym**	**chciał**	**zamówić.**
	I	*would*	*want*	*to order.*

Pattern		**Subject**			**by+ending**		**3rd person past tense Verb**		**Direct Object or Verb.***
Question	**Czy**	Ja	My		bym	byśmy			**dwa napoje.**
	?	Ty	Wy		byś	byście	**ł(m)** **ła(f)** **ło(n)**	**li(m)** **ły**	*two drinks.*
Negative		On Ona Ono	Oni One	**nie** *no*	by	by			**Księgę Mormona.** *a Book of Mormon.*
									zostać *to stay.*
							chcieć *to want* **móc** *to be able to*		**pomagać** *help* **iść.** *to go.* **wyjaśniać** *explain*

The verbs móc and chieć are conjugate irregularly in the past tense. Here are their conjugations.Other verbs are conjugated following the normal past tense rules (see page 47).

móc	mógł mogła mogło	mogli mogły

chcieć	chciał chciała chciało	chcieli chciały

examples:

Q. Czy chiałabyś zostać?
Would you want to stay?
A. Tak, chciałabym zostać.
Yes, I would want to stay.
A. Nie, nie chiałabym zostać.
No, I would not like to stay.

- **On chciałby dwa napoje.**
  He would like two drinks.
- **Czy byście chcieli Księgę Mormona?**
  Would you guys like a Book of Mormon?
- **Nie moglibyśmy wyjaśniać.**
  We wouldn’t be able to explain.
- **Wszyscy chcieliby pomagać.**
  Everyone would like to help.
- **Ty byś mógł iść.**
  You could go.

Gdyby (If)

The conditional tense is used to make if/then statements. For example if I was rich then I would buy a car. **Gdy**(in this instance) means if. The verbs in the sentence must be made conditional (If I would be rich, then I would buy a car). The word "then" in Polish is "to". Remember that the by+ending in conditionals can be placed anywhere in the sentence-in this instance it is attched to the end of gdy.

example	**Gdybym**	**był**	**bogaty,**	**to**	**bym kupił**	**samochód**
	If	*I would*	*be*	*rich*	*then*	*I would buy*	*a car.*
pattern	**Gdy**	**[conditional verb]**			**to**	**[conditional verb]**	
question					**Question word**		
		móc			**czy**	**chodzić**	**do kościoła.**
		To be able to (can)			*?*	*to come*	*to church.*
			wybrać		**gdzie**	**mieszkać**	**w Polsce.**
			choose		*where*	*to live*	*in Poland.*
							w Londynie.
							in London.
					kiedy	**wracać**	**we wtorek.**
					when	*go back*	*on tuesday*
		być	**młodszy**		**co**	**robić**	
		to be	*younger*		*what*	*to do*	

To make a conditional a question „to" can be replaced with any question word.

Example: **Gdybyś był bogaty, *czy* byś kupił samochód?**

If you would be rich, would you buy a car?

*To negate **nie** is placed in front of the first verb or the second depending on which is intended to be negative.

examples:

Q. Gdybyś mógł wybrać, kiedy byś wracał
If you could choose, when would you go back?

A. Gdybym mógł wybrać, to bym wracał we wtorek.
If I could choose, then I would go back on Tuesday.

A. Gdybym mógł wybrać, nie bym wracał we wtorek.
If I could choose, I wouldn't go back on Tuesday.

- **Gdyśmy mogli, to byśmy chodzili do kościoła.**
  If we could, then we would come to church.
- **Gdybyście mogli wybrać, gdzie byście mieszkali?**
  If you(all) could choose, where would you(all) live?
- **Gdybym mógł wybrać, to bym mieszkał w Polsce.**
  If I could choose, then I would live in Poland.
- **Gdyby mogli wybrać, to nie by mieszkali w Londynie.**
  If they could choose, they would not live in London.
- **Gdyby była młodsza, co by robiła?**
  If she would be younger, what would she do?

Expressing Purpose

Żeby, aby, by

In the Polish language in order to express purpose *żeby, aby*, or *by* must be used. They all are equivelent and may be used according to a speaker's preference. It may be helpful to translate them as "in order to". In english purpose is often inferred, but in Polish the purpose must be explicitly stated using *zeby, aby,* or *by*.

example:

We are going to the store to buy milk	purpose of going to the store-to buy milk-is inferred.
Idziemy do sklepu *żeby* kupić mleko *We are going to store **in order to** buy milk*	purpose is stated using żeby, aby or by.

Żeby, aby or *by* must also be used in any sentence in which the subject changes. For example God wants us to be obedient. God is the origional subject performing the action "to want", but the subject is then changed to "us"(which is simply a pronoun for we) performing the action "to be". So the Polish translation looks more like: God wants **in order that** we are obedient.

- *Żeby, aby*, and *by* require a change when used when the subject changes. An ending matching the new subject must be added to them. Then the new verb must be conjugated to 3rd person past tense. Remember that gender must match with the past tense endings. See "Past tense" page 47

New Subiect

I	We
You	You(all)
He, she, it	They

Żeby, aby, or by +Ending

m	śmy
ś	ście
No ending	No ending

New Verb ending

ł(m) **ła(f)** **ło(n)**	**li(m)** **ły**

**The subject normally is not used but is shown here just for conjugating purposes*
**questions, negations, and cases work the same as normal, zeby, aby and by do not affect them.*

examples:

Bóg chce zebyśmy byli posłuszni. *God wants in order that we are obedient*	God wants us to be obedient.
On prosił zebym był ciszy. *He asked in order that I am quiet.*	He asked for me to be quiet.
Mama śpiewała zeby dziecko spał. *The mom sings in order that child sleeps.*	The mom sings so that the child sleeps.
Ja chcę zebyś pomagał. *I want in order that you help.*	I want you to help.

Time and Dates

Phrases relating to time and dates work differently in Polish than in English, but follow a consistant pattern. In Poland a 24 hour clock is used. So one o'clock in the afternoon would be thirteen and two o'clock fourtneen and so on.

What time is it?			**Answer**			
Która	**Jest**	**Godzina?**		**Jedenasta**	**trzydzieści**	**11:30**
which	*is*	*hour*		*eleventh*	*thirty*	
				ósma	**pięć**	**8:05**
				eighth	*five*	
			za	**pięć**	**południe**	**11:55**
			in	*five*	*noon*	
			wpół	**do**	**sióstej***	**5:30**
			half	*to*	*sixth*	

- Która is an adjective describing hour so it must match the case of hour which is mianownik feminine.
- When answering, time is stated relative to "hour"-elventh hour, eighth hour, etc., but hour doesn't need to be said, it is understood. So simply "eleventh" is enough. The numbers match the case of hour-Which is mianownik.
- The minutes numbers are cardinal numbers and never change.

***do** is a dopełniacz preposition so the number is conjugated to match godzina in the dopełniacz case
Example: **do piątej (godziny)** godziny again need not be included, but is understood.
To fifth hour

What time is… ?				**Answer**			
O	**której**	**jest**	**spotkanie?**	**o**	**piętnastej**	**dwadzieście trzy**	**15:23**
At	*which*	*is*	*meeting*	*at*	*fifteen*	*twenty-three*	
			kościół		**dziesiątej**		**10:00**
			church		*ten*		
			zajęcie	**na**	**siedemnastą**	**dwadzieście**	**17:20**
			activity	*at*	*seventeen*	*twenty*	

- **O** is a miejscownik preposition so której and the numbers describing "godzina"(hour) must be in the miejscownik case.
- The minutes numbers are cardinal numbers and never change
- **na** may also be used and is a biernik preposition, so after **na** the number describing "godzina"(hour) must be in the biernik case

…is at…					
Spotkanie	**jest**	**o**	**piętnastej**	**dwadzieście trzy**	**15:23**
Meeting	*is*	*at*	*fifteen*	*twenty-three*	
Kościół			**dziesiątej**		**10:00**
Church			*ten*		
Zajęcie		**na**	**siedemnastą**	**dwadzieście**	**17:20**
Activity		*at*	*seventeen*	*twenty*	

Motion Verbs

Verbs of motion work slightly differently than the normal verbs in the Polish language. They are separated into two categories: general going and going by vehicle. Normally each verb comes in two forms- imperfective/perfective. Motion verbs have two types of imperfective: the determinant and the indeterminant.

The indeterminate is for actions performed regularly, or habitually i.e. going to church, going to school, etc.

The determinate is used for all other actions in progress

The perfective is used for all actions to be completed in the the future or having been completed in the past.

Below each verb is shown with it's proper conjugations.

	indeterminate		*Determinate*		*Perfective*	
By foot	**chodzić**		**iść**		**pójść**	
	chodzę	chodzimy	idę	idziemy	pójdę	pójdziemy
	chodzisz	chodzicie	idziesz	idziecie	pójdziesz	pójdziecie
	chodzi	chodzą	idzie	idą	pójdzie	pójdą
By vechicle	**jeździć**		**jechać**		**pojechać**	
	jeżdżę	jeździmy	jadę	jedziemy	pojadę	pojedziemy
	jeździsz	jeździcie	jedziesz	jedziecie	pojedziesz	pojedziecie
	jeździ	jeżdżą	jedzie	jadą	pojedzi	pojadą

These verbs conjugate regularly to the past tense (see "Past Tense" pg. 49) except for iść and pójść their past tense conjugations are shown below

iść	
szedłem(m) szłam(f)	szliśmy(m) szłyśmy
szedłesz (m) szłasz(f)	szliście(m) szłyście
szedł(m) szła(f) szło(n)	szli(m) szły

pójść	
poszedłem(m) poszłam(f)	poszliśmy(m) poszłyśmy
poszedłesz (m) poszłasz(f)	poszliście(m) poszłyście
poszedł(m) poszła(f) poszło(n)	poszli(m) poszły

examples:

Chodzimy co niedziele do kościoła
We go every Sunday to church.
Indeterminate, general going.

Poszedł do domu.
He went home.
Perfective, completed in the past.

Czy idziesz miasta?
Are you going to the city?
Determinate, in progress.

Jedziemy do Warszawy pociągiem.
We are going to Warsaw by train.
Determinate, in progress.

Wołać Case

The wołać case is used only when calling out to or addressing someone. For example, when praying in Polish Father in Heaven is addressed as “Ojcze w niebie” rather than the typical “Ojciec w niebie”.

(Father in wołać) (Father in mianownik)

Remember to put a word in the wołać case:

- Singular and plural noun endings change based on what gender they are.
- Adjective endings must match the gender of the noun.
- To case a word simply remove the last vowel and add the wołać ending that matches.

Many of the endings are the same as mianownik and will be labeled SAM.

	Singular		*Plural*	
	Adjective Ending	*Noun ending*	*Adjective Ending*	*Noun ending*
Masculine Personal	**SAM**	**soften+ e, u***	**SAM**	**SAM**
Masculine		**soften+ e, u***		
Feminine		**o**		
Neuter		**SAM**		

- For masculine and masculine personal
  - If it’s hard soften and add e
  - If it’s soft or historically soft add u
- For feminine
  - o is normally used

*** "see softening” on page 13**

examples:

Dictionary form		
Grzegorz	**Grzegorzu**	**Grzegorzu, czy możesz mi pomóc?**
Gregory	*Gregory*	*Gregory, can you help me?*
Samochód	**Samochodzie**	**Jedź szybciej samochodzie.**
car	*car*	*Go faster, car.*
Marta	**Marto**	**Marto, co robisz?**
Marth	*Martha*	*Martha, what are you doing?*

APPENDIX

This appendix includes referece materials and summaries that may be useful in piecing together the different parts of the language as well as more advanced grammar principles.

Cases

Here cases and some additional functions will be reviewed.

Who, what

The words *who* and *what* also go through the cases, but were not covered in the grammar guide. So when asking a question they must be in the correct case.

examlples:

- Who is he? Who is renaming he so it would be in narzednik: **Kim** jest On?
- What do you want? What is the directed object (receives the action of the verb) so must be in the biernik case: **Co** chcesz?
- What do you need? What is the direct object, but need (potrzebować) governs dopełniacz so it must be in the dopełniacz case: **Czego** potrzebujesz?

In the dictionary who and what are used to show verb governance. They generally appear after the verb cased in the case which the verb governs.

Example: Potrzebować: (kogo, czego) *to need*

Kogo and czego are who and what in doepełniacz so potrzebować governs dopełniacz.

Who and what will be shown in their respective cases in the folling form: **verb governance (who, what)**.

Case Summaries

Mianownik; english name - nominative: Only used for the subject of the sentence and "to jest…"

Mianownik has no verb governance, **who** and **what** as subjects are **kto** and **co** respectively.

Dopełniacz; english name - genetive:

1. When biernik verbs are negated the direct object must be in the dopełniacz case(pg. 32)
2. To show posession(pg. 33)
3. Quantifiers(pg. 36)
4. Numbers 5 and higher-if there are five or more of an object the object must be in dopełniacz plural
   Example: 4 minuty, but 5 minut
5. Verb Governance (kogo, czego)
6. Prepositions:

z	*from*	**podczas**	*during*	**blisko**	*close*
od	*from*	**u**	*at(someone's place)*	**koło**	*around*
do	*to*	**pośród**	*among*	**dla**	*for(someone's benefit)*
obok	*next to*	**według**	*according to*	**bez**	*without*
wzdłuż	*along*	**pomino**	*in spite of*	**oprócz**	*besides*
wobec	*in relation to*	**zamiast**	*instead of*	**daleko**	*far*
naprzeciwko	*opposite*	**wewnątrz**	*inside*	**zewnątrz**	*outside*

Celownik; english name - dative:

1. Always used for the indirect object (pg. 46)
2. Verb Governance (komu, czemu)
3. Prepositions:

dzięki	*thanks to*	**przeciw**	*against*
ku	*towards*	**wbrew**	*contrary to*

Biernik; english name - accusative:

1. Generally used for direct objects (unless a verb governs otherwise or is negated)
2. Verb Governance (kogo, co)
3. Prepositions

przez	*through*	
w	*on*	days of the week
za	*for(an object)*	example: to thank *for* something
o	*for or about*	when **asking** for or about something
w	*in*	believe in, and in the name of

Prepositions from all other cases when used with motion verbs become biernik prepositions.

example:

Jestem na rynku. *I am on the town square.*	*Rynek is in the miesjownik case, na meaning on.*
Idę na rynek. *I'm going onto the town square*	*Rynek is in biernik because the subject is in motion.*

Narzednik; enlgish name - instrumental:

1. Renaming (pg.24)
2. "by the means of"- Narzednik is used anytime an action is performed with the aid of an object(a tool or instrument). In English the words with or by are often used for this, but in Polish the object is simply in the narzednik case.

example:

On uderzył gwóźdź młotem *He hit the nail (by the means of) a hammer.*	*Notice młot(hammer) is in the narzednik case. In english it would be with a hammer*
Jadę samochodem. *I am going (by the means of) a car.*	*Notice car samochód is in the narzednik case.The car is aiding the "going".*

3. Verb Governance (kim, czym)
4. Prepositions

z	*with (physically together)*	**za**	*behing*
przed	*before; in front of*	**poza**	*beyond*
nad	*above*	**pod**	*under*
między	*between*		

Miejscownik; english-locative:

1. The Miejscownik case is only used with meijscownik prepositions. (pgs. 47-48)

o	*about*	
na	*on or at*	only with place (physically on or at)
w	*in, inside*	only with place (physcically inside)
przy	*next to*	
po	*after*	

2. There is no verb governance for miejscownik so who and what are shown after a preposition (o kim, o czym)

Wołać; english-vocative:

1. The only time wołać is used is for calling out to or addressing
   example: Marto, czy możesz mi pomóc (Marta, can you help me?)

Other spelling changes

When casing sometimes adding the endings can cause other changes within the word.

1. Floating e rule
- When an e is just before the last consonant when cased it drops out.
  example: **dziadek**(grandfather) cased in biernik becomes **dziadka**
- When a word ends in two consonants and a vowel; the vowel is removed e is added between the consonants
  example: **jabłko**(apple) when cased in dopełniacz plural becomes **jabłek**
2. Ó to o
- When ó is just before a consonant at the end of a word when an ending is added the accent is removed.
  example: **samochód** when cased in narzednik becomes **samochodem**
3. ą to ę
- when ą or ę is just before a consonant at the end of a word, when an ending is added it switches to the other
  example: **ząb(**tooth) when cased in mianownik plural becomes **zęby**(teeth)

Case Chart

This chart shows all the cases together as one. NC indicates no change. SAM indicates "same as mianownik"

CASE		Singular		Plural		Reasons
		Adjective	Noun	Adjective	Noun	**All:** verb governance and prepositions
Mianownik English name: Nominative Kto, co	masculine personal	NC	NC	soft+y,i	soft+y,i e, owie	Subject To jest…
	masculine	NC	NC	e	y,i,e	
	Feminine	a	NC		y,i,e	
	Neuter	e	NC		a	
Dopełniacz English name: Genetive Kogo, czego	masculine personal	ego	a	ych, ich	ów	Negation Posession Quantiers #s 5 and up
	masculine	ego	u,a		ów	
	Feminine	ej	y,i		drop	
	Neuter	ego	a		drop	
Celownik English name: Dative Komu, czemu	masculine personal	emu	owi,u	ym, im	om	Indirect object
	masculine	emu	owi,u			
	Feminine	ej	soft+e, y, i			
	Neuter	emu	u			
Biernik English name: Accusative Kogo, co	masculine personal	ego	a	ych, ich	ów	Direct object
	masculine	NC	NC	e	y,i,e	
	Feminine	ą	ę		y,i,e	
	Neuter	e	NC		a	
Narzednik English name: Instrumental Kim, czym	masculine personal	ym, im	em	ymi, imi	ami	Renaming By the means of
	masculine	ym, im	em			
	Feminine	ą	ą			
	Neuter	ym, im	em			
Miejscownik English name: Locative o kim, o czym	masculine personal	ym, im	soft+e, u	ych, ich	ach	Only prepositions
	masculine	ym, im	soft+e, u			
	Feminine	ej	soft+e, y, i			
	Neuter	ym, im	soft+e, u			
Wołać English name: Vocative	masculine personal	SAM	soften+ e, u	SAM	SAM	Calling out
	masculine		soften+ e, u			
	Feminine		o			
	Neuter		SAM			

IF:
- Hard and softens to historically soft
- Hard and softens to anything else
- Soft or historically soft
- Nouns of distinction
- Hard
- Soft
- Historicaly soft
- k, g, and accents

Hard	**f**	**w**	**m**	**b**	**p**	**n**	**t**	**d**	**s**	**z**	**ł**	**r**	
Soft	**fi**	**wi**	**mi**	**bi**	**pi**	**ni**	**ci**	**dzi**	**si**	**zi**	**l**	↓	**j**
				Hard			**k**	**g**	**ch**			↓	
				Historically Soft			**c**	**dz**	**sz**	**cz**	**dż**	**rz**	**ż**

Pronouns Reference

Pronouns in parenthesis are used **in prepositional phrases**.
Pronouns after commas (example: cię, ciebie (ciebie)) are used for special emphasis.

Mianownik

Ja	My	się
Ty	Wy	
On Ona Ono	Oni One	

Celownik

mi, mnie (mnie)	nam (nam)	sobie (sobie)
ci, tobie (tobie)	wam (wam)	
mu, jemu (niemu) jej (niej) mu, jemu (niemu)	im(nim)	

Biernik

mnie (mnie)	nas (nas)	się, siebie (siebie)
cię, ciebie (Ciebie)	was (was)	
go, jego (niego) ją (nią) je (nie)	ich(nich) je(nie)	

Narzednik

mną (mną)	nami (nami)	sobą (sobą)
tobą (tobą)	wami (wami)	
nim (nim) nią (nią) nim (nim)	nimi (nimi)	

Dopełniacz

mnie (mnie)	nas (nas)	się, siebie (siebie)
cię, ciebie (Ciebie)	was (was)	
go, jego (niego) jej (niej) go, jego (niego)	ich(nich)	

Miejscownik

(mnie)	(nami)	(sobie)
(tobie)	(wami)	
(nim) (niej) (nim)	(nich)	

Posseive Adjectives Reference

mój	nasz	swój
twój	wasz	
jego jej jego	ich	

- These pronouns are in the base, masculine form.
- Mój, twój, nasz, wasz, and swój decline as regular adjectives in the cases.
  **when case endings are added to these words ó becomes o*
- Jego, jej, and ich NEVER change.

Prepositions Reference

Biernik

o	for ex. Proszę o
po	for (to get something) ex. I'm going to the store **for** bread
przez	by, through
w	in (the name of, believe in) on (days of the week)
za	in *see prepositions of time (pg. 72) for ex. Dziękuję za

Dopełniacz

bez	without
brew	in spite of
dla	for
do	to
koło	around
mimo to	despite
obok	next to
od	from
oprócz	except
podczas	during
pomimo	in spite of
u	at (someone's place)
według	according to
wobec	in regard to
wśród	among
z	from, from out of
zamiast	instead of

- Any preposition when put into **motion** becomes a BIERNIK preposition

Example:

Jestem w tramwaju (I'm **in** the tram)
W is miejscownik and therefore tramwaj is in the miejscownik case.

Udejrzyłem w tramwaj (I ran **into** the tramwaj)
The preposition is in motion so becomes biernik.

Celownik

dzięki	thanks to
przeciw, wbrew	against (przeciw is more common)
ku	towards

Narzednik

między	between
nad	above, over
pod	under
poza	beyond
przed	before, in front of
z	with
za	after, behind

Miejscownik

na	on, at (place or event)
o	about, at (a time)
po	after
przy	next to
w	in

Imperative/command form

Verbs exist in another form when they are a command. Some English examples would include: *wash the dishes. Help me! Stop it. Read this*. Etc.

To make a verb imperative:

- For ać verbs: conjugate to 3rd person plural (they) and remove the ą
- For all other verbs: conjugate to 3rd person singular (he she it) and remove the last letter
  *if an i is left next to a letter, it is removed
  *if an i is left next to n, s, z, or c the i is removed and they become ń, ś, ź, and ć

pattern:

czytać to read *infinitive*	**czytają** *3rd person plural*	**czytaj-ą** *remove the ą*	**czytaj** read *imperative form*
iść to go *infinitive*	***idzie*** *3rd person singular*	***idzi-e*** *remove the e and the I (z becomes ź)*	***idź*** go *imperitive form*

This is the basic form and is used when addressing a single individual.

- When addressing multiple individuals **cie** is added to the end.
  example: *czytaj**cie** (you all read)*

- When addressing multiple individulas with yourself included **my** is added to the end.
  example: *czytaj**my** (let's read)*

examples:

chodzić	**chodź**	**chodźcie**	**chodźmy**
to come	*come*	*you all come*	*let's come*
czekać	**czekaj**	**czekajcie**	**czekajmy**
to wait	*wait*	*you all wait*	*let's wait*
przestanąć	**przestań**	**przestańcie**	**przestańmy**
to stop	*stop*	*you all stop*	*let's stop*

Verbal Nouns

A verbal noun is a noun which is formed from a verb. Some English examples would be: a writing, running, helping etc.

To make a verbal noun:

- For ać , ować, ywać verbs the ć is removed and **nie** is added
- For ić, yć, eć (1) verbs(pg. 31) the ć is removed an **cie is added**
- For ić, yć, eć (2) verbs(pg. 32) the entire verb ending (ić, yć, eć) is removed and **enie** is added
  *if it ends in n, s, z, or c **ienie** is added
- For ąć verbs the ąć is removed **ęcie** is added
  *if it ends in n, s, z, or c **ięcie** is added

pattern:				
	czytać to read *infinitive*	**czyta** *ć is removed*	**czyta+nie** *nie is added*	**czytanie** reading *verbal noun*
	pić to drink *infinitive*	**pi** *ć is removed*	**pi+cie** *cie is added*	**picie** drinking *verbal noun*
	rozumieć to go *infinitive*	**rozumi** *eć is removed*	**rozumi+enie** *enie is added*	**rozumienie** understanding *verbal noun*
	posunąc to move *infinitive*	***posun*** *ąć is removed*	***posun+ięcie*** *ięcie is added*	***posunięcie*** moving *verbal noun*

Adverbial Participle

An adverbial participle is a verb that has been changed into an adverb in order to describe an action occurring at the same time as another action. This is used only with imperfective verbs.

examples:		
	On rozmawiał przez telefon *prowadząc* samochód. *He talked on the phone (while) **driving** a car.* **Biegam *słuchając* muzyki.** *I run listening to music.*	*prowadząc is the adverbial participle meaning driving.* *słuchając is the adverbial participle meaning listening.*

To create an adverbial participle:

- Conjugate the verb to 3rd person plural(they) and add **c**

pattern:

mówić to speak *infinitive*	**mówią** *conjugated to 3rd person plural(they)*	**mówią+c** *c is added*	**mówiąc** speaking *adverbial participle*
być to be *infinitive*	**będą** *conjugated to 3rd person plural(they)*	**będą+ć** *c is added*	**będąc** being *adverbial participle*

Adjectival Participles

An adjectival participle is a verb that has been changed into an adjective. English examples of this would be "the book was **written**" or "the **living** prophet"-write was changed to the adjective written and live was changed to the adjective living. These adjectives decline in the cases just as normal adjectives.

Past adjectival participles: represent a completed action in adjective form. *example:* The book was **written**.

To create a past adjectival participle:

- For ać , ować, ywać verbs the ać is removed and **any** is added for anything singlular and **eni** for anything plural
- For ić, yć, eć verbs the verb ending is removed and **ony** is added for singular and **eni** for plural
  *if it ends in n, s, z, or c **iony**(singular) or **ieni**(plural) is added
- For ąć verbs the ąć is removed **ęty** is added for singular and **ęci** for plural
  *if it ends in n, s, z, or c **ięty**(singular) or **ięci**(plural) is added

pattern:	**pamiętać** to remember *infinitive*	**pamięt** *ending removed*	**pamięt-any** *any is added*	**pamiętany** remembered *past participle*
	wypełnić to fill *infinitive*	**wypełn** *ending removed*	**wypełn+iony** *iony is added*	**wypełniony** filled *past participle*
	zdjąć to remove *infinitive*	***zdj*** *ąć is removed*	***zdj+ęty*** *ęty is added*	***zdjęty*** removed *past participle*

Active adjectival Participles: describe what the noun is actively doing.
examples: **biegące dzieci**(running children), **osoba czekająca**(person waiting), **lecące małpy**(flying monkies)

To create an active adjectival participle:

- Make the verb into an adverbial participle (see adverbial participles pg. 68) and add y

pattern:	**chodzić** to go/walk *infinitive*	**chodząc** *adverbial participle*	**chodząc+y** *y is added*	**chodzący** walking *active adjectival participle*
	śpiewać to sing *infinitive*	**śpiewając** *adverbial participle*	**śpiewiając+y** *y is added*	**śpeiwający** singing *active adjectival participle*

Prepositions of Time

The prepositions used in english such as “for” two days or “in” one week, do not translate directly to Polish. The polish prepositions work as follows:

Przez: translates to for and is used for periods of time that started and finished in the past. The verb is conjugated to one of the past tense. Przez causes the object of the preposition to be cased in biernik.

example: **Byłem w Polsce przez dwa lata.**
I was in Poland for *two years*

Byłem-conjugated to past tense

Od: translates to “since” or “for” and is used for periods of times that started in the past and continue currently. The verb is conjugated to the present tense. Od causes the object of the preposition to be cased in dopełniacz.

example: **Jestem w Polsce od dwa lata.**
I have been in Poland for two years.

Jestem-conjugated to present tense

Na: translates to for or “for a total of” and is used when referring to a total amount of time. The verb is conjugated to the present or future tense. Na causes the object of the preposition to be cased in biernik.

example: **Jestem w Polsce na dwa lata.**
I’m in Poland for a total of two years.
Będę w Polsce na dwa lata.
I’ll be in poland for two years.

Jestem-conjugated to present tense

Będę-conjugated to future tense

Za: translates to “in” and refers to a period of time in the future. The verb is conjugated to one of the future tenses. ZA causes the object of the preposition to be cased in biernik.

Example: **Będę w Polsce za dwa lata.**
I will be in Poland in two years.

Będę-conjugated to future tense

The chart below represents the prepositions of time visually.